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## Cabinet reshuffle delayed

### Uproar as Hanegbi slams Barak; no-confidence fails

By LIAT COLLINS

Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi stole the show in the Knesset plenum yesterday while responding to the two no-confidence motions in the prime minister. Hanegbi began reading a newspaper interview with a soldier injured in the 1992 Tze'elim 2 training accident who accused Labor leader Ehud Barak, then IDF chief of general staff, of running away from the site without helping the wounded.

The Knesset uproar was so great that Speaker Dan Tichon ordered a five-minute break which extended

Meretz jointly with the Arab parties, were meant to concentrate on economic issues, all the opposition speakers used the opportunity to attack the government on political and social issues too.

When Hanegbi began reading from the newspaper article in his response, MK Anat Maor (Meretz) walked out in protest; Eli Goldschmidt (Labor) was asked to leave for heckling and Shevah Weiss (Labor) left in sympathy with Goldschmidt.

Moledet leader Rehavam Ze'evi asked that Hanegbi's speech be wiped from the minutes.

The Third Way's Alex Lubotzky later told the Knesset that his party would not support the government in the vote unless the prime minister did not disassociate himself from Hanegbi's speech. Ze'evi expressed a similar sentiment. In a hurried meeting between the Third Way and the premier just before the vote, Netanyahu told the MKs that had he given the speech "it would have been a different one." He later told reporters he had also been the victim of vicious attacks by the opposition, which he accused of being "hypocritical."

Barak said: "Hanegbi is a justice minister with the characteristics of a bully, and the prime minister who sent the bully to the plenum is responsible for his words. Netanyahu's gang and Hanegbi are apparently in deep trouble because of the feeling that the government is collapsing," Barak said. The accusations that he had abandoned the wounded are unfounded. "This is baseless and wild slander and I have no doubt that this will come clear when the state comptroller publishes her statements."

Five soldiers were killed and six injured in the Tze'elim-2 accident. Begin described Barak as "a decorated hero who did not buy his



Angry MKs confront Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi after he attacked Labor Party leader Ehud Barak over the Tze'elim-2 training accident during yesterday's Knesset debate. (Brian Hendler)

badges of honor or rank in the army store. I think that when the prime minister sends a subordinate in the form of the justice minister to the plenum and he in an act of hooliganism, which is not an unknown tactic, uses such a newspaper article, it does not signal a strong government."

Labor whip Ra'anana Cohen said Hanegbi had "caused a serious escalation in the wild incident and determined negative norms of work in the Knesset. He is a dis-

grace to his title as Israel's justice minister." He said the Labor party is organizing to gather the signatures of 40 MKs necessary to start procedures to try to remove him.

See HANEGBI, Page 2

By MICHAEL YUDELMAN

Bickering over the proposed Finance portfolio delayed the expected announcement of the new cabinet last night. The cabinet changes will be presented only at the beginning of next week.

PM, FM differ on summit  
communiqué, Page 2

National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon, who is the leading candidate for the post, conferred with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu for the second time yesterday, but the two failed to reach an agreement on Sharon's status and authority, and decided

to meet again today. Sharon demanded to be a member of the security cabinet and to continue being in charge of reforming the Israel Lands Administration so that he could make sure it takes place. He denied reports that he had insisted on expanding the Finance Ministry to include the ILA and the Water Commission.

Tourism Minister Moshe Katsav, who was designated to replace Sharon at National Infrastructure, said he would not take over a "clipped" ministry.

Ya'acov Ne'eman's official announcement earlier in the day that he would not be returning to the cabinet paved the way for ensuring support for a reshuffle from the National Religious Party, Shas, and United Torah Judaism, which had demanded Ne'eman's reinstatement as justice minister.

### Levy considered quitting

By MICHAEL YUDELMAN

Foreign Minister David Levy considered resigning from the cabinet yesterday because of his growing frustration and disappointment with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and the government's functioning, Geshet sources said.

The grumbling in Geshet culminated in a crisis, and the faction decided not to support Netanyahu's government in the no-confidence motions. Geshet members said they would not be in the plenum for the votes.

Netanyahu made several attempts to talk to Levy during the day, but all were spurned.

Levy held an unexpected meeting with President Ezer Weizman shortly before the Knesset debate, complaining that he was not part of decision-making in the peace process. He also expressed concern over the freeze in negotiations with the Palestinians.

Levy is reportedly also angry over Netanyahu's intention to add Ariel Sharon to his "kitchen" cabinet, which comprises only the prime minister, Levy, and Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai.

Levy said on Monday that he fears the government will have difficulty making crucial decisions in the future, implying that Sharon's hawkish views will obstruct the peace process. Levy and Mordechai are of the opinion, it was reported, that Sharon's appointment to a senior cabinet position would lead to disaster.

Levy also said he was facing a "difficult personal decision" concerning his future in the cabinet, a hint he had thought of resigning. MKs David Magen and Maxim Levy, two of Geshet's leading members, are both pushing Levy to take a more decisive step than just expressing his dissatisfaction. Magen is pushing for early elections.

## Three women named to Efrat religious council

By HAIM SHAPIRO

The community of Efrat in Gush Etzion has broken new ground with the appointment of three women to its local religious council.

The three include Becky Avner, who immigrated from St. Paul, Minnesota, in 1972 with her husband Mordechai. They have had a synagogue in the basement of their home for over three years. The others are Bruria Rabinowitz and Rivka Margolis.

The fact that three women were named to a local religious council marks the first major breakthrough for women in this field since Leah Shakkdiel won a landmark legal decision almost 10 years ago. Shakkdiel petitioned the High Court of Justice, which recognized her right to be a member of the Yeruham Religious Council.

Although the seating of women on local religious councils has often been fraught with bureaucratic obstacles, in this case it was relatively simple. Because Efrat is across the Green Line, all the members of



Becky Avner

its religious council are appointed by Religious Affairs Ministry's deputy director-general, Yehiel Lagami.

Efrat Chief Rabbi Shlomo Riskin, who was instrumental in drawing up the list of candidates, said yesterday that he had always felt it is important to have women in places of Jewish leadership,

especially in places such as the religious councils, which deal with issues important to women. Among the main jobs of the religious council, Riskin said, are the administration of ritual baths, which are utilized mainly by women, supervision of kashrut, which is also a matter in which women are particularly active, and synagogues.

"In Efrat, on Shabbat and holidays we have as many women as men in the synagogues," Riskin said.

As long as the Chief Rabbinate was opposed to women sitting on religious councils, Riskin said, he had arranged for women to participate as observers. Now that the Chief Rabbinate has dropped its opposition, he said, he hopes that the presence of three women on the Efrat council will lead to more women on religious councils all over the country.

Avner said that the new council has not yet convened, but she is optimistic and expects to get something done. "There are good people there. We can do a lot of good," she said.

## Newly observant IDF?

### Shahak visits Halacha, science center

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin Shahak yesterday paid a visit yesterday to the Institute for Science and Halacha in Jerusalem - to what his "intellectual curiosity."

"I heard about what they were doing, and it piqued my curiosity, so that's why I'm here," Shahak said, squeezing in his visit in between a briefing before the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee and a lecture at Hebrew University.

The institute, which seeks ways of finding halachic solutions to technological problems, is pushing the IDF to start operating "Shabbat telephones."

But when asked if the IDF is going to put them into service, Shahak quipped: "Do I look like an acquisition clerk to you? I came to see what



Dov Zioni (striped shirt) tells Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak how the Shabbat telephone he developed works. (Bryan McBurney)

they're doing, that's all."

Rabbi Levi Yitzhak Halperin told Shahak that he heard from informed sources that General Staff headquarters in Tel Aviv is eight stories high.

"Is one supposed to walk up eight flights on Shabbat?" Halperin asked, pushing the army to install an automatic Shabbat elevator.

Surrounded by haredi experts in Halacha and physics, Shahak examined gadgets such

as the revolutionary "grama" indirect-action switch upon which many of their electronic solutions are based.

Shahak questioned Dov Zioni, who developed the Shabbat telephone, on the halachic possibilities of various alternatives to the switch. "If I have a beam of light and my hand cuts through it, is that allowed?" Shahak asked, sparking a lengthy lecture on electricity and Halacha.

Shahak initiated the visit, and the institute is hoping it is a sign that the IDF is interested in its work.

But the chief of staff was non-committal, saying only that there is a need for unity and tolerance among both religious and secular Jews.

"I have seen things here which are doubtless important. I hope you'll be able to continue to help those who need it," he said.

### New post for Indyk

The White House said last night that President Bill Clinton has



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nominated Ambassador to Israel Martin Indyk as assistant secretary of state for Middle Eastern affairs, Israel Radio reported. Indyk will assist Secretary of State Madeleine Albright in establishing and overseeing policy in the Middle East and North Africa. The nomination requires Senate approval.

### Shekel drops to 3.5

The shekel depreciated by another 0.63 percent yesterday, settling at 3.506 to the US dollar, after an exceptionally volatile trading day during which it fell at one point to an all-time low of 3.6 to the dollar. Since the start of the year, the dollar is up 8.3%.

Full report, Page 8



## NEWS

in brief

## Police probing anti-Livnat signs

Central District Police investigating road signs threatening Communications Minister Limor Livnat have transferred the probe to the Serious Crimes Division. Police would only say yesterday that in light of new findings and developments, Inspector-General Assaf Hefetz had ordered the investigation conducted by the division, a national unit which deals with serious crimes. The signs reading, "Livnat is explosive," were put up on the Jerusalem-Tel Aviv highway.

Raine Marcus

## Two drown in Western Galilee

Police said a 4-year-old boy from a village in the Achziv area drowned while swimming with his father. His name was not released for publication.

In a separate incident, police said Jalal Salah Hashan of Julis, went swimming north of Nahariya during his afternoon work break and was swept away. A Coast Guard boat was summoned to the area, but efforts to revive him failed.

Iim

## Two pedestrians seriously injured

Yehuda Ohayon, 65, of Moshav Sde Uziah, was seriously injured yesterday when he was struck by a car while crossing the road between his moshav and neighboring Moshav Emtunim.

Another pedestrian, 60-year-old Petah Tikva man, was seriously injured while crossing the road between Kfar Hayarok and the Gelliot interchange. He was walking his bicycle across the road, but not at a pedestrian crossing.

Iim

## Tzurif terrorists' remand extended

The Lod Military Court on Monday extended the remand of two members of the Tzurif terrorist cell through the end of their trial. Suspects Ra'ad Abu Hamadiya, 21, and Ayman Kafisha, 27, both of Hebron, are charged in connection with the kidnapping of soldier Sharon Edri, the killing of three women in the Aproso cafe bombing, and the murders of members of the Unger and Monk families. Abu Hamadiya is suspected of carrying out the crimes planned by Kafisha.

Iim

## Settlers hope for Morag solution before Friday

By MARGOT DUDKEVITCH

Although the Council of Jewish Communities in Judea, Samaria and Gaza has called for a mass demonstration against Palestinian presence in Morag on Friday, council spokeswoman Yehudit Tayar said yesterday that she hopes a solution will be found so that the planned protest gathering cancelled.

"We hope that the IDF and senior government officials will realize that a solution must be found and the Palestinians pushed out of Morag," she said, adding that it was inconceivable that Palestinians enter a settlement and government officials and the IDF "turn a blind eye."

Palestinians on Monday erected tents just outside the fence at Morag.

Tayar stressed that the settlers are not seeking violence but felt the situation could not continue. "This is our red line," she said.

According to Tayar, reports in the Palestinian press have called for wealthy Arab landowners to buy up land surrounding existing settlements in order to prevent them from expanding. "It is obvious that they are seeking to prevent settlement expansion,

whether by causing violent riots or entering settlements. The Palestinians in Morag don't live nearby, the Palestinian Authority brings them in from Gaza," she said.

In an interview on Arutz 7 yesterday, Gaza Regional Council head Aharon Tsur warned that settlers might take action themselves. "Palestinians are gathering between the bothouses and the houses of residents on Morag and no one is doing anything," he said. "Armed Palestinian police mingle with the Palestinians, their hand on the trigger pointed in the direction of Morag. I hope they won't use their arms against IDF soldiers or residents."

"This is a fight not only for Morag but for all the settlements in Judea and Samaria. I hope we won't be forced to uproot the makeshift tents and huts erected by the Palestinians."

Meanwhile, last night the IDF was investigating reports by settlers in Hebron that a firebomb was thrown at troops patrolling near the Tarik Junction. Early yesterday morning, the IDF Spokesman said three firebombs were thrown at troops in Hebron. No damage or injuries were reported.

## Civil Administration: We didn't practice retaking PA areas

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

The Civil Administration in the West Bank said yesterday it held a simulation exercise aimed at dealing with a variety of scenarios that could occur in the territories, but vehemently denied a report on Israel Radio that it included retaking Palestinian-controlled territory, arresting Palestinian leaders and replacing them with Israeli-picked Arabs.

About a dozen senior Civil Administration officers participated in the simulation, held Monday. Israel Radio said the exercise focused on preparing for violence and practicing returning the Civil Administration to the territories now under Palestinian control. It also said they trained for various steps includ-

ing the cancellation of VIP cards, economic sanctions and more.

"There is no relation to the radio report and reality," said Shlomo Dror, spokesman for the IDF coordinator of activities in the territories. "It's complete nonsense."

Dror said the simulation, which is held periodically every few months, reviewed the actions of the Civil Administration during emergency situations. "We don't train arresting Palestinians or setting up alternative leaders or returning to Area A (until Palestinian control)... That isn't even our function," Dror said. "Our task is a humanitarian one. We reviewed how we would distribute medicine, fuel, and food, and deal with the movement of people."

Dror said most Palestinian leaders familiar with the civil administration

## PM, FM differ on Denver Eight

By JAY BUSHINSKY

After delaying their reaction to the "G7 Plus One" industrial nations' summit communiqué on the Middle East until receipt of the official text, Foreign Ministry sources yesterday praised its emphasis on regional economic development and hoped this would spur the participating nations to become actively involved in this international effort.

The Denver Summit of the Eight consisted of Russia as well as the most technologically advanced countries of Western Europe, the US, and Japan.

Expressing determination to "rein-ject momentum" into the peace process, the communiqué urged the parties "to pursue economic coopera-

tion among themselves and integration into the global economy."

It placed special importance on economic aid to the Palestinian Authority, declaring: "We welcome all efforts to promote the region's development of viable and sustainable economies, including assistance to the Palestinians, and urge donors to fulfill pledges made."

Unlike the Foreign Ministry's stress on the Denver conclave's positive aspects, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's bureau differentiated between its "very one-sided and discriminatory" decisions and President Bill Clinton's call on the Palestinians "to combat terrorism."

The contrasting assessments could stem from divergent attitudes and perceptions conveyed to their respec-

tive staffs by Netanyahu and Foreign Minister David Levy.

Netanyahu's director of communications, David Bar-Ilan, assailed the G7 Plus One summiters for "not finding it necessary to mention Palestinian violence, and especially that perpetrated by the PA." This was a clear reference to the recent assassinations of Palestinian land dealers accused of transferring West Bank real estate to Jews.

But the Foreign Ministry sources noted, "after a thorough examination of the Denver communiqué's text," that the eight participating governments emphasized the "need to restore security and mutual confidence" insofar as the Israelis and Palestinians are concerned, and "to call for the resumption of negotiations

on all the tracks including the bilateral and multilateral ones."

The virtual contradiction of Bar-Ilan's evaluation of the communiqué, which was released by Foreign Ministry sources, coincided with an Army Radio report that Levy was dissatisfied with the role assigned to him as foreign minister and was contemplating resignation.

The communiqué gave the Madrid and Oslo phases of the peace process equal priority, declaring:

"We shall do our utmost to reinvigorate implementation of the Oslo Accords and to uphold the principles of Madrid, including the exchange of land for peace. All the problems need to be addressed peacefully through serious and credible negotiations. Both sides must refrain from actions

that impede the peace process by preempting permanent status negotiations."

The participants also urged "Israel, Syria, and Lebanon to resume direct talks in order to achieve a comprehensive settlement in the region."

Clinton was lauded by the Foreign Ministry sources for stating, at a summing-up news conference, that parties situated outside the region, including the US, do not always know the best way to exert influence and that, in the end, the parties themselves must make the requisite decisions.

Agence France-Presse quoted PA Chairman Yasser Arafat's praise of the stand adopted by the summit regarding "the rescue of the peace process and its continuation."



Rabbi Marvin Hier of the Simon Wiesenthal Center addresses the opening of a two-day international conference in Geneva on "Property and Restitution - the Moral Responsibility to History."

(Reuters)

## Wiesenthal Center launches campaign against Austria

GENEVA (AP) - Keeping the pressure on Switzerland to pay back what he called "billions" in Holocaust money, a top Nazi-hunter announced a similar campaign yesterday against neighboring Austria.

Rabbi Marvin Hier of the Simon Wiesenthal Center said Austria should hand over the equivalent of half a billion dollars in gold that it received from the Allies after World War II.

"If the Swiss who are being forced by world opinion to reconsider, why should the Austrians who fought for Hitler do no less?" Hier said in his opening address at a two-day conference on Jewish assets plundered by the Nazis.

The meeting, attended by 28 experts from 17 countries, will examine how to restore property and funds to their rightful owners. Hier said more investigations are needed into the financial role of

Sweden, Spain, Portugal - which bought German gold - as well as the transfer of Nazi funds to Argentina, Brazil, Uruguay and Chile. But he saved his strongest attack for Austria, annexed by Germany in 1938.

Many Nazi officials and concentration camp commanders were Austrian, and Austrians helped round up Jews for deportation and eventual murder. Yet after the war, the Allies paid over \$54 million from seized Nazi assets to Austria to compensate for Austrian national bank gold confiscated by Hitler. This is now worth about \$540 million, Hier said, describing the Allies' decision as "outrageous."

The commission appointed by Oslo to determine compensation for Norwegian victims of the Holocaust this week ended in a deadlock after 15 months of deliberations. It is now up to the

Norwegian government to propose a settlement package to parliament.

The seven-member commission could not agree on the level of compensation for Jewish assets confiscated by the Nazis. Five members said Norway owed the Jewish community about \$15.7 million. The two Jewish members said the amount was probably four times higher.

"It is tragic that the commission was split," said Michael Melchior, Norway's chief rabbi. "But now we have to put it behind us. We are convinced that Norway wants a moral settlement."

Meanwhile, the Simon Wiesenthal Center's Israel Office yesterday welcomed the Lithuanian decision to prosecute Alexander Litvinenko, who allegedly headed the Lithuanian security police during the Nazi period and was involved in the murder of thousands of Jews.

## Syria discontent with peace process progress - Shahak

By LIAT COLLINS

Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin Shahak said yesterday that the recent opening by Syria of its borders with Iraq represents its discontent with the peace process and Israel.

According to an official briefing, Shahak told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee that Syria had recently opened its borders with Iraq at three crossings. He said the Syrians are giving the contacts an economic guise "but I doubt this. In my opinion, this step reflects the Syrians' dissatisfaction with the lack of progress in the diplomatic process with Israel."

Shahak also said that Syria is continuing to act to improve its capabilities to attack Israel, and in particular to carry out a surprise attack. He stressed that since August 1996 there had been a change in the atmosphere in Syria and it continues to improve its capabilities and to make its officers more aware of the possibilities of war. Israel is monitoring the situation, Shahak said.

A senior military intelligence officer clarified, however, that although Syria had not abandoned the military option, and recently seemed increasingly prepared for an attack, there is no concrete evidence of something planned for the near future.

Regarding the public debate on an IDF withdrawal from Lebanon, the chief of staff said: "The discussion is legitimate but harmful. A political decision is needed, not a public argument. There is no place for and no benefit to a unilateral withdrawal from south Lebanon. The conse-

quences of a unilateral withdrawal would be more dangerous than the consequences of staying," he said.

He noted that the type of Hizbullah activities in Lebanon has remained basically the same, mainly gunfire from a distance, mortars and anti-tank weapons. Shahak said lately the Hizbullah has been putting pressure on Antoine Lahad's forces in the Jezzine area.

Regarding the situation with the Palestinians, Shahak said there is a feeling of pessimism and frustration, and great tension in the autonomous areas. He said the Palestinian Authority leadership is interested in the friction continuing but does not want it to explode or get out of control. Shahak said the PA seems to be trying to thwart any terror attack, plots it discovers.

He said there is an accumulation of hatred which could be ignited by either a decision by the PA (although it is not interested in this at the moment) or an unexpected event.

The PA believes the pictures being shown around the world and in Israel of street confrontations serve its interests but according to Shahak, the relatively light response of the IDF means the Palestinians are finding it harder to organize youths to take to the streets. About a third of the protesters in Hebron were not local residents, he said.

Shahak said the IDF is doing everything possible to reduce the tension by talking with the PA police at lower levels in the field. He said the IDF had issued clear orders on how to respond to a major flare-up of violence.

## Ben Dunkelman: War hero and passionate supporter of Israel

laughed off the report, but he said it could certainly cause damage in general.

"We are working with the Palestinians to advance the economic interests in the area and a report like this can set us back," Dror said.

Itim adds: Palestinian cabinet secretary-general Tayeb Abdel Rahim warned yesterday that Israel intends to recapture territory it had handed over to the Palestinian Authority. He said: "We have information that Israel is conducting military exercises in an operation called 'Field of Thorns.' This operation is a re-occupation of land returned to the Palestinians. The aim of the operation is to embarrass the Palestinian Authority in the public eye and create havoc."

the debate in the no-confidence motions, Barak accused Netanyahu of dividing the country and destroying the peace process.

"The drums of war can be heard," Barak said. He said the country deserves a better and more responsible leadership.

Barak said Netanyahu is conducting "a dangerous policy," isolating and weakening Israel, and that the countdown to the end of the government had begun.

He later told reporters: "The government can't muster a majority and even leading Likud MKs are saying they have no confidence in the government."

Ben Dunkelman, who commanded the Seventh Brigade throughout much of the War of Independence, died recently in Toronto. Though there is a bridge on the Lebanese border called Gasher Ben in his honor, the name of this Canadian Jew is, sadly, little known here.

Besides leading the brigade that liberated much of the North, Dunkelman was one of the leading figures in planning the Burma Road, which relieved the siege of Jerusalem. His exploits are detailed in his autobiography, *Dual Allegiance*, published by Macmillan in 1976.

His long relationship with Israel began years before the war. In 1931 he spent a year in a kibbutz, but then returned to Canada. In 1941, he enlisted in the Queen's Own Rifles and was with the unit when it landed on the beaches of Normandy in 1944. When the troops crossed the Rhine and entered Germany, they encountered a minefield. He figured, correctly, that no mines would be buried at the base of trees, and so instructed the men to cross the field by jumping from tree base to tree base. He was discharged with the rank of major.

Back in Canada, working in his parents' outfitting business, he became a well-known speaker and fund-raiser for the Jews in Palestine. He was then asked to help create and head a brigade of North American volunteers (Mahal) to fight in the War of Independence.



File photo of Ben Dunkelman (GPO)

## The family of YITZHACK (Ijo) RAGER

of blessed memory, thanks the residents of Beer-Sheva, capital of the Negev, and all those who came to comfort them, for their sympathy with the family during its time of deep grief.

We hope and pray for the continued development of Beer-Sheva, and offer our congratulations to Mr. David Bonfeld, who will continue his predecessor's course.

The Rager family

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مركز العمل



שבת 25 ביוני 1997

REPORTER'S NOTEBOOK

# Journalists and MKs play the numbers game

By LIAT COLLINS

In the hours leading up to yesterday's votes on the two no-confidence motions, radio and TV crews trailed through the Knesset with outstretched microphones, while print reporters tried to avoid tripping up on the wires.

Reporters for the foreign press also grabbed as many MKs as they could identify. But one crew not only failed to work out which side was opposition and which coalition, but nearly created a crisis in the cafeteria by trying to bring meat dishes to the table.

Since it was a foregone conclusion that Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu would survive the vote, the name of the game was numbers. Fifty-fifty was not the odds of the motions succeeding, but the most pessimistic figures for coalition and

opposition turnout. Everywhere, people could be seen adding up how many votes the opposition and the coalition would gain, literally figuring it out.

Every MK had his say. Some played according to the rules, providing clear answers on how they would vote; others strung the stringers along. Dan Meridor, whose resignation as finance minister gave the added importance to the motions, told frustrated reporters: "If I tell you now how I'll vote, you won't have any work to do."

"I'll vote like I voted in past no-confidence motions," said Ze'ev Begin, Meridor's friend and Likud colleague. He then voted with his feet and was noticeably absent.

Coalition whip Michael Eitan, who earlier coined the poetic answer: "From crisis to crisis, our strength increases," looked relatively relaxed, even

as he held meeting after meeting to explain the coalition's stand. The good mood was either because he knew the outcome, or because he was waiting to give up his coalition post in favor of the Science portfolio.

A flicker of a frown crossed his brow when he was asked his chances of being appointed the minister in charge of liaising between the cabinet and the Knesset.

Labor whip Ra'anan Cohen also had time to joke in between constant meetings. "Just say I'm 'touchy,'" he said. "I'm in touch with this MK and I'm in touch with that MK."

The only people who lost their sense of humor were the cafeteria staff, who had to cater to so many different tastes that the supplies ran out before the hungry politicians waiting for food for thought.



## Students empathize

Psychology students protest in front of Jerusalem's Hamashbir department store yesterday, in solidarity with public-sector psychologists striking for higher wages. The students held up signs reading, "Six years of study - why?" and "Psychology - only for the rich?" The psychologists also continued to demonstrate their dissatisfaction yesterday morning, when they slowly drove in a convoy of some 30 cars into Jerusalem, causing traffic jams.

(Anel Jerolimski)

## HEBREW PRESS REVIEW

MICHAEL YUDELMAN

Yesterday's newspapers focussed on the reshuffle of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's cabinet and its implications - what it means to him, the government and the country.

*Ha'aretz's* editorial says the reshuffle illustrates the failure of Netanyahu's government, noting that it brings no hope for a cabinet that will be more successful.

It has exposed an embarrassing picture of ministers governed by greed for power and honor, while seeking to evade hard work and responsibility, the editorial continued.

*Ha'aretz's* columnist Yoel Marcus marvels, somewhat ironically, at Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi's refusal to budge from his office, despite Netanyahu's wishes and the scathing criticism of his conduct in the Bar-On Affair. Hanegbi, Marcus writes, is teaching the prime minister a lesson which will not soon be forgotten.

Using the phrase "it takes one to know one," Marcus says Hanegbi knows Netanyahu understands only force, and is using that weapon to ensure he remains untouched. Determined not to turn into Netanyahu's scapegoat in the Bar-On Affair, Hanegbi made it clear that if anyone tries to remove him, he will quit the cabinet and, with the information at his disposal, cause Netanyahu grave damage and bring the government down with him.

Sure enough, Netanyahu backed down and hurriedly changed his tactics, showering affection and friendship on Hanegbi, who took it with the "enthusiasm of a woman being raped," Marcus writes.

In a properly conducted state, a man such as Hanegbi would not have been found suitable for the post of justice minister to begin with, Marcus says, if only for cutting off the microphones at prime minister Yitzhak Rabin's gathering. But this thug-like act pales beside the harsh criticism of his role in the Bar-On Affair. Marcus continues, quoting the relevant parts from the state attorney and attorney-general's report on the affair.

*Ma'ariv's* Yosef Lapid says we should not be deceived by the frantic activity preceding the no-confidence vote. Even if Netanyahu manages to present his new cabinet at the last moment, and preserve the coalition's stability by winning majority support in the no-confidence vote, there is no confidence in him.

Lapid argues that the crisis is not merely political, but mainly a moral one, noting the statements Netanyahu's partners in the cabinet are making behind his back are

worse than those of his left-wing rivals. Netanyahu is not believed, even when he speaks the truth, Lapid says.

The way in which Netanyahu has managed to turn his colleagues, partners, and supporters against him in such a short time is unprecedented in Israeli politics, he writes, adding that the "national camp," from the extremists to the moderates who believe in the peace process, feels confused, betrayed, and shaken.

Lapid paints a vivid image of Netanyahu "lunging from one affair to the next, staggering from the blows landing on his head, firing media phrases without cover, his threatened eyes searching for someone who believes him, if not in Hebrew, then at least in English. Netanyahu's partners in the coalition smell blood and act like a pack of predatory animals, each trying to snatch his pound of flesh, before the prime minister either pulls himself together or collapses."

*Ma'ariv's* Hemi Shalev said yesterday's Knesset vote is perceived by many as Netanyahu's last chance, for in the coming days and weeks he will not be able to afford to make any more mistakes.

The real issue of the Knesset session was not the no-confidence vote or the presentation of new ministers, but the personality of the prime minister and whether he could mend his ways, writes Shalev.

*Yedioth Aharonot's* Bina Barzel also analyzes the coalition crisis, concluding that none of the coalition partners are prepared for new elections in two months' time and therefore their threats are empty.

The crises in Likud governments are always emotional and dramatic, says Barzel, but Netanyahu has added motives such as insult and disappointment to the relations between the leaders, which in the past were always ruled by cold political interests.

National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon's expected appointment as finance minister is arousing grave concern not only among American and European leaders, who fear for the fate of the peace process, but among some Treasury officials as well.

*Ha'aretz's* Judy Maltz notes that Sharon's conduct in both his former ministries was characterized by his wasting huge sums of money on temporary housing, exceeding the housing budget by NIS 1.5 million, unreasonable subsidies for agricultural products, irregular grants to industrialists and handing out state guarantees to contractors.

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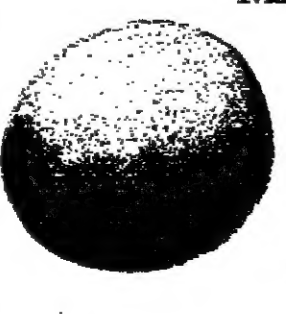


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## NEWS

in brief

## Interior Ministry preparing for Falash Mura

The Interior Ministry is taking steps toward implementing the Ministerial Committee on the Diaspora's decision to close the compound in Addis Ababa and bring those who are eligible immigrants to Israel, the ministry announced yesterday. The ministry plans to increase its staff to evaluate which of the 3,900 Falash Mura at the camp can immigrate to Israel and begin to gather equipment towards this end. The ministry has asked the Treasury for funding to do so.

## Romanian worker stabbed to death

A Romanian, around 30 years old who worked at a restaurant near an institution for juvenile offenders near Kiryat Ata, was stabbed to death yesterday afternoon. He was discovered by a passing truck driver, who rushed him to the institution's clinic, where he died from his wounds. Police, who have not yet identified him or determined why he was killed, suspect that he was involved in a quarrel with another worker.

## Gov't budgets NIS 28m. to care for retarded

The government is budgeting NIS 28 million to provide facilities for retarded children, the Labor and Social Affairs Ministry announced yesterday. This year, NIS 10m. will be spent on providing full-time care for some 250 retarded children who need to be institutionalized. NIS 18m. has been promised for next year, under an agreement between the ministry and Treasury. The decision came following a lobbying campaign by the children's parents and organizations that help the retarded.

## Summation reached in Sharon vs. 'Ha'aretz'

National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon's NIS 510,000 libel suit against 'Ha'aretz' and its writer Uzi Benziman entered the summation phase in Tel Aviv District Court yesterday. Sharon contends the paper libeled him when it printed, on May 17 1991, a Benziman article which claimed that late premier Menachem Begin knew "that Sharon deceived him" during Operation Peace for Galilee about the war in Lebanon.

## Four more arrested in driving license scam

Police in the North yesterday arrested four more people wanted in connection with taking bribes and forging driver's licenses. Two of them had administered driving tests, and are suspected of taking bribes from teachers to pass students. The other two are alleged to have acted as mediators between teachers and test administrators.

## Four hospitals get new directors-general

Four of Kupat Holim Clalit's 15 hospitals have new directors-general. Clalit's new director-general Dr. Yitzhak Peterberg has named new heads for the Schneider Children's Medical Center for Israel in Petah Tikva, Carmel Hospital in Haifa, Soroka Hospital in Beersheba, and the Shalvata Psychiatric Hospital in Hod Hasharon. Dr. Itamar Shalit, 48, who is director of Carmel Hospital, moves to Schneider. Prof. Shlomo Mor-Yosef, 46, deputy director-general of the Hadassah Medical Organization, will head Soroka. Dr. Ya'acov Zilberg, 55, replaces Shalit at Carmel, while Prof. Moshe Kutler, 48, moves from the Beersheba Mental Health Center to Shalvata.

Judy Siegel

## IAI protest turns violent

By Jerusalem Post Staff and News agencies

Thousands of workers at Israel Aircraft Industries held a violent protest yesterday against privatization efforts, attacking IAI chairman Avigdor (Yanosh) Ben-Gal as he entered the company compound near Ben Gurion airport.

Workers burned tires outside the compound and blocked its gates. When Ben-Gal arrived at the scene, some 2,000 workers surrounded his car and damaged it. After Ben-Gal got out of the vehicle, he said he was pushed and shoved by the mob. "Today was the first example of violence. I very much fear that this will continue," Ben-Gal told Israel Radio.

The workers blocked Ben-Gal from entering the plant. Police surrounded him, protecting him from the demonstrators. He returned to his car, but the

workers continued to chase him, kicking and pounding the vehicle. One worker clubbed Ben-Gal and smashed the windshield of his car.

Police and IAI security men came to Ben-Gal's rescue, pushing away the protesters and allowing him to drive away.

According to a statement issued on behalf of the workers, Ben-Gal scuffled with the workers' union leader, Haim Katz, and threatened to "take his eyes out."

The statement notes that after police escorted Ben-Gal away, thousands of workers returned to work.

"We won't allow this man to destroy everything we've built over the years," the



Avigdor Ben-Gal (Camera 2)

statement quoted Katz as saying, "We're talking about the livelihood of 15,000 people, and the defense interests of the State of Israel."

Following the violence, IAI's legal counsel asked for a court injunction against the workers for "crossing the line" by hurting Ben-Gal and damaging property. IAI director-general Moshe Keret sent a message to Katz, saying he took a very grave view of the demonstration.

The attempt to use force to prevent the entry of the chairman is an intolerable act which causes severe damage to the company and its workers," Keret wrote. "You are asked to use your authority immediately to stop union members from such activities, and return to work."

The workers organized the demonstration against what they argued were Ben-Gal's contacts to begin selling off IAI without informing or consulting them.

IAI is one of several state companies slated to be privatized. Workers and management disagree over the pace of privatization. Yesterday's protest was sparked by reports in the media that Ben-Gal has been talking to the US-based company Lockheed Martin about a possible partial buyout.

An IAI spokesman confirmed that Ben-Gal has held informal talks with representatives of the US firm, but said the discussion was hypothetical since the government has not given the go-ahead for negotiating a deal.

Workers fear large-scale layoffs if IAI is sold. The company employs nearly 14,000 people and has annual sales of \$1.6 billion.



Students protest value education

A student raises a banner in front of the Education Ministry yesterday during a demonstration to protest plans to establish an Administration for Values Education. (Ariel Jerolimski)

## MKs debate doubling their pensions

LIAT COLLINS

A stormy session of the Knesset House Committee yesterday ended without a decision on a request to double the pensions of MKs who retire at the age of 55 or above.

After several arguments which were not resolved, the committee agreed to a proposal by Haim Oron (Meretz) to postpone the vote. The discussions focused on the differences between pensions for MKs, who took a cut last year, and ministers.

Oron told the committee that the issue of MKs' wages, pensions and conditions should be determined by a public panel. He said even if there is a difference between the pensions, the ministers should take a drop in theirs rather than the MKs getting a rise to make things equal.

Ophir Pines (Labor) asked that the committee to remove the subject from its agenda altogether saying the previous discussion on salaries and pensions had "seriously harmed the Knesset's public standing and image."

Labor faction chairman Ra'anan Cohen, who raised the issue, said that in January it had been decided to link the MKs' pensions to the

ministers'. He said that since ministers who retire at age 55 or older enjoy a 4 percent annual pension for every year they worked above that age, the same conditions should be granted to the MKs.

Knesset Speaker Dan Tichon, who was called to the meeting in the middle, opposed the suggestion and said in the past it had been decided to fully accept the recommendations of the Rosen-Tzvi Commission on MKs' wages and conditions, which gave them lower pensions in return for high wages. He also said that if the ministers' pension rate, it should be dropped to the level of the MKs.

Oron said that had he not demanded to consult with the Meretz faction in the Knesset, Cohen's proposal would have been accepted. He suggested adding a clause stating that the pensions of the ministers who leave at age 55 and above be reduced to 2% be included in the legislation being prepared by Avraham Ravitz (United Torah Judaism) and Shaul Yahalom (National Religious Party) on the conditions of Knesset and cabinet members.

## Jubilee year plans revealed

By HELEN KAYE

On December 23, the first light of Hanukkah will officially usher in Israel's 50th year, the first of a year-long calendar of events that will happen both locally and abroad to acknowledge the state's jubilee.

"When historians come to look back at the 20th century, the establishment of the State of Israel will occupy a central place, two catastrophic world wars not withstanding," said Tourism Minister Moshe Katsav, representing the Prime Minister's Office, at yesterday's press conference introducing the program.

To date, there are some 24 state events between December 1997 and October 1998, spread from Dan to Eilat.

The IDF, adult and youth groups from here and abroad, local and Diaspora communities, and celebrated performing artists from here and around the world will participate in the year's central event, an Independence Day spectacular at the Ramat Gan sports stadium celebrating the state's

achievement from its founding and looking forward to 2000.

Other major events include a Salute to Israel at the Kennedy Center in Washington in the presence of President Bill Clinton.

The candle-lighting, with a special 50th anniversary candle, will take place at the President's Residence and, simultaneously, throughout the country and the Jewish world. The candle-lighting symbolizes two of the jubilee's four central ideas, that of a continuous Jewish presence in the land for thousands of years and the inclusiveness of the events "which are for all Israel's citizens, not just her Jewish ones," Katsav emphasized.

The other two are increasing awareness of Israel in the Diaspora, and bridging the gaps which "divide Israelis and which culminated in the revolting murder of Yitzhak Rabin."

The NIS 200 million budget, reduced from the proposed NIS 250m., to fund the year's programs was finally approved, on Sunday.

## Study: Aspirin helps prevent second stroke

JUDY SIEGEL

A dose of at least 300 milligrams of aspirin, taken within 48 hours of having a stroke, helps prevent a second stroke and death, according to an international study in which Israeli researchers participated. The research, carried out in 36 countries, looked at the cases of 19,435 patients, 114 of them Israelis.

Such a dose can prevent the death of 10 patients or a recurrent stroke for each 1,000 persons who have undergone a stroke. Dr. Natan Bornstein, head of the unit for cerebrovascular diseases at Ichilov Hospital in Tel Aviv, said yesterday that old-mainstay aspirin was highly effective in reducing mortality after a stroke, compared to the blood-thinning drug, heparin.

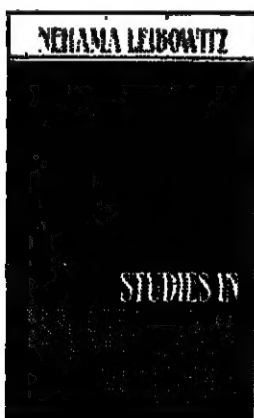
When heparin was given in moderate doses, aspirin proved more effective, and when large doses of heparin were administered, the patients often suffered cerebral hemorrhages as a result. Strokes - in which blood vessels in the brain are blocked by a clot causing oxygen starvation and damage to brain tissue - are the third most common cause of death in Israel after cardiovascular diseases and cancer. They are also the main cause of disability in middle-aged and elderly adults.

Bornstein said that the research results add an important contribution to the controversial question of aspirin vs. heparin after a stroke. At least 300 mgs. of aspirin should be given in the emergency room and immediately after a clot-induced stroke (but not a brain hemorrhage) is diagnosed, he said.

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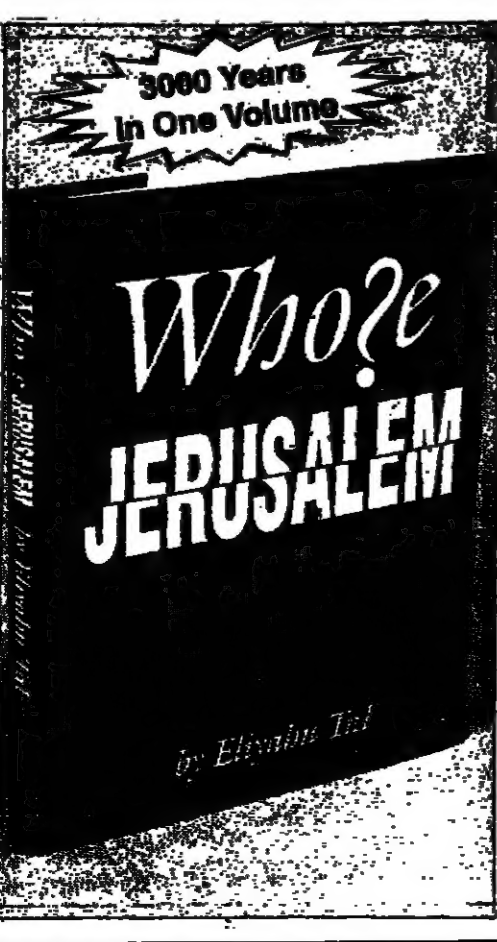
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مكتبة القدس





Hong Kong Governor Chris Patten talks with deputy chief secretary Anson Chan yesterday during the last meeting of his cabinet, the Executive Council, before the handover of the British colony to China. (Reuters)

## Questions mount about Hong Kong handover

**HONG KONG (AP)** — One week before Hong Kong reverts to China, prickly questions cropped up yesterday about handover-night displays of democratic activism.

Members of Hong Kong's elected legislature — who will be out of a job once the switchover occurs — want to deliver a manifesto from the balcony of the legislative building just after the handover at midnight on June 30.

The new legislature set up by China wasn't happy, saying such a gesture would be "propaganda" and "might not be appropriate." The issue is still being negotiated with the incoming government, but some outgoing lawmakers have hinted they might defy a ban.

Martin Lee, leader of the Democrats, Hong Kong's

biggest party, has said he will climb up a ladder to the second-floor balcony if he is barred from the legislative building after midnight.

Also yesterday, Hong Kong lawmakers approved a controversial new sedition law. Introduced by the colonial government, it broadens the list of offenses against the state but stipulates that they are offenses only if they entail violence.

China threatened earlier to annul any new legislation on sedition, seeing it as an attempt to forestall the subversion law that is to be passed by the post-colonial legislature. In China, verbal attacks on the state, even where no violence is involved, are an offense.

Attempts by democratic legislators to pass more liberal

amendments were defeated, and Gov. Chris Patten said he believed China could live with the outcome. "I think the bill as it stands is a good one," he said.

Meanwhile, a grass-roots group China has labeled subversive said it will keep marching and speaking out for democracy after the territory reverts to Chinese rule. "We will try to fight for democracy, not only in Hong Kong but also in China. We know this is our responsibility, and it's also our right," said Cheung Man-kwong, a leader of the Hong Kong Alliance in Support of Patriotic Democratic Movements in China.

The Alliance was founded in 1989 to support China's student-led democracy demonstrations, which were crushed by the

Chinese army on June 3-4, 1989. In a manifesto of goals, the group said it would use peaceful means, including civil disobedience, to achieve its aim of installing full democracy in Hong Kong and mainland China.

Hours before the midnight handover, the group will hold a vigil in honor of jailed dissidents. Singapore statesman Lee Kuan Yew told a Hong Kong audience that electoral reforms set in motion by Patten in 1992 had created "hostility" with China.

"That is the biggest penalty Hong Kong has paid for this belated and misconceived effort," said Lee, speaking at a conference on Hong Kong's future. "After all this bad blood I think Beijing's attitude will be one of grave suspicion."

## Micronesia sounds global warming alarm

News agencies

**UNITED NATIONS** — The big names flew in from London, Paris, Washington. But it took a quiet man from the faraway Pacific to bring home the meaning of the UN Earth Summit — and the growing dread of global warming.

The sea is already rising out in the mid-Pacific, the president of tiny Micronesia told delegates yesterday, opening day of the weeklong conference. Scientists have predicted that global warming will cause the oceans to expand.

"Some smaller atolls in Micronesia already have had to be abandoned because of this difficulty," Jacob Nena said. "Help us." Another islands president, from the Indian Ocean nation of Maldives, took up the islanders' cause when the debate resumed today.

"The process may be too gradual to make sensational headlines," Maumoon Abdul Gayoom said, "but the threat nevertheless will be no less real." In an appeal clearly directed at Washington, Gayoom called on the world's powerful to agree on specific targets for reducing carbon dioxide and other "greenhouse gas" emissions that help trap the Earth's heat in the atmosphere.

The United States thus far has balked at endorsing any cutback timetable. Germany, South Africa, Brazil and Singapore yesterday launched a joint initiative aimed at overcoming North-South political differences on global warming and energy strategies. The four called on the summit to send a "clear message" on greenhouse gas emissions that affect climate change. They asked for 15 percent reductions in emissions below 1990 levels by 2010, with a 10 per-

cent reduction by 2005.

The proposal is somewhat stronger than one put forth by the European Union at this week's summit where diplomats have been unable to agree on most targets needed to combat global warming, deforestation and over-consumption of energy.

German Chancellor Helmut Kohl received backing from Brazilian President Fernando Henrique Cardoso, South African Deputy President Thabo Mbeki and Singapore Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong for his proposal for a world environmental centre.

He asked that the United Nations put its myriad agencies and commissions under one roof in a "global environmental umbrella organization" with the Nairobi-based UN Environmental Program (UNEP) as a "major pillar." UN sources said he had spoken to Secretary-General Kofi Annan about putting such a center in empty government offices in Bonn. But neither Britain nor the Netherlands thought this was a good idea. "I'm not convinced we need another world organization," said British Foreign Secretary Robert Cook.

Ukraine's President Leonid Kuchma meanwhile told the summit yesterday his country was spending a billion dollars a year to combat the aftermath of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster 11 years ago.

"Eleven years after the catastrophe, we still feel its after-effects, and not us alone," he said, referring to the spread of nuclear fallout from the disaster to other countries.

Kuchma said the nuclear power plant that exploded in 1986 would be decommissioned by 2000 and Ukraine had taken major steps to ensure such a disaster could not happen again.

## Prom mom charged

**FREEHOLD, New Jersey (AP)** — The teen-ager who gave birth at a high school prom was charged with murder after an autopsy concluded the child suffocated, a prosecutor said yesterday.

Melissa Drexler, 18, surrendered to authorities yesterday morning and was also charged with endangering the welfare of the child, said prosecutor John Kaye.

A janitor found the body of a baby boy June 6 in a plastic bag in the trash — after Drexler had returned to the dance floor during the Lacey Township High School prom. "No one knew she was pregnant but her," Kaye said.

Kaye said yesterday the baby had been born alive and was either strangled or suffocated.

## X-File closed

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — The US Air Force offered yesterday what it hopes is the final word on claims by UFO buffs that alien bodies were recovered at a crash site in New Mexico in 1947: The "bodies" were not aliens but dummies used in parachute tests.

The explanation — on the eve of the 50th anniversary of an incident which dominates the famed television *X-Files* series — is offered in enormous detail in a 231-page report the Air Force released yesterday.

It is meant to close the book on longstanding rumors that the Air Force recovered a flying saucer and extraterrestrial bodies near Roswell, New Mexico, in July 1947, and then covered it up. The title of the report tells it all: *The Roswell Report, Case Closed*.

The Air Force in 1994 issued a report on the Roswell incident that said the "spacecraft" that supposedly crashed in the New Mexico

desert was an Air Force balloon used in a top-secret program. Project Mogul, intended to monitor the atmosphere for evidence of Soviet nuclear tests.

The Air Force called that report its final response to the Roswell rumors. But later the Air Force came upon evidence it believed would explain the additional rumors that space aliens were recovered at the crash site and were covered up. So yesterday's report was put together to provide what Air Force Secretary Sheila Widnall called a "complete and open explanation."

The possibility of a government conspiracy to cover up an actual UFO sighting was ridiculed yesterday by retired Air Force Col. Richard Weaver, who wrote the 1994 report.

"I don't think the government is capable of putting together a decent conspiracy," Weaver said on NBC television's Today show.

## Boring Brando

**ATHENS (AP)** — A Greek tycoon made Marlon Brando an offer he couldn't refuse: a holiday in Greece and an opportunity to talk about the world's problems.

The secluded actor delivered a rambling speech Monday night in a mansion owned by multi-billionaire shipowner Giannis Latsis. The elite of Athens was there to drink the words of wisdom.

"I thank you for not snoring," Brando said repeatedly to the audience which sometimes missed the self-deprecating jokes as he droned on for 90 minutes with an exhaustive list of the world's evils — global warming, depletion of the ozone layer, war, the Indian caste system, avid politicians and smoking.

Among the 800 guests were actress Irene Papas (flown from an island at Brando's request) and two Greek government ministers (one of whom was hissed at for hogging the floor in an introductory speech). (Agencies)

## Top Balkan war suspect on trial

**THE HAGUE (AP)** — A UN court yesterday began trying its most senior suspect in custody — a Bosnian Croat general accused of leading a rampage that killed hundreds of Moslems and drove many more from their homes.

The trial of Gen. Tihomir Blaskic is only the third before the Yugoslav war crimes tribunal. Set up in 1993 by the UN Security Council, it has indicted 75 suspects, but has just eight in custody.

Blaskic is the top-ranking official behind bars. He turned himself in last year, claiming he would prove his innocence. If convicted, he faces a maximum sentence of life imprisonment.

His trial, expected to last months, could give new momentum to a court that has convicted only two minor figures while those on its most-wanted list are free.

"Bosnian Croat military under the command and control of Tihomir Blaskic ethnically

cleansed parts of central Bosnia," prosecutor Mark Harmon said.

Harmon, a former prosecutor with the US Justice Department, accused Blaskic of "systematically attacking Moslem civilians and their homes ... by employing methods that no sensible military commander would condone."

Prosecutors have a list of 300 potential witnesses, although not all are expected to testify. Harmon said he would also produce orders from Blaskic telling his troops to destroy Moslem villages.

Prosecutors called their first witness, US historian Robert Donia, who began describing the historical roots of the Bosnian conflict for the three-judge panel. Donia's testimony is expected to last most of the week.

Prosecutors allege that Blaskic, 36, should be held responsible for an ethnic purge of Moslems in the Lasva Valley of central Bosnia in 1992 and 1993.

## THE RULES OF THE GAME HAVE CHANGED



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Libitrom — on June 26, the regional radio stations are running a national fundraising campaign to raise money for driving courses for soldiers. Courtesy of The Jerusalem Post.

With the help of your contributions to Libitrom, more and more soldiers will be able to take part in intensive three-day workshops in which they are taught the rules for staying alive on the roads and get to practice safe driving. Donate to Libitrom, so that soldiers who are on the road while on leave, get home safely.

Our thanks to everyone who has contributed to the success of the campaign: The Jerusalem Post, Ma'ariv, Ha'aretz, Globes, Yedioth Aharonot, Yediot Communications local newspapers, Shalom Peretz Media & Communications, Bezeq, Abadi Advertising, and the regional radio stations (Radio Haifa 107.5 FM, Radio Jerusalem 101 FM, Radio Darom 97 FM, Radio Lelo Haifa 103 FM, Radio Kol Hayeron Ha'adom 102 FM, Radio Jerusalem 101 FM, Radio Darom 97 FM, Radio Lelo Haifa 103 FM, Radio Lev Hamedina 91 FM), Emitsa Haderech 90 FM, Radio Kol Haifa 93 FM, Radio Hasharon 99 FM.



# THE JERUSALEM POST

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## Miscommuniqué

Though summits of world leaders are much less grandiose these days, the staffers who prepare for them are still called "sherpas," after the local mountain climbers who do most of the work for the international expeditions scaling the Himalayas. At the just-finished Denver Summit, some clever sherpa devised a barbed arrow pointed at Israel, then tried to make it seem fair by referring to "both sides." The communiqué of the Denver Summit of the Eight declared that "Both sides must refrain from actions that impede the peace process by preempting permanent status negotiations." The reaction from both sides was swift: For Israel, the Prime Minister's Office expressed "shock" at the "one-sided" nature of the communiqué, while Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat welcomed the statement.

Despite the veneer of balance, the communiqué was clearly directed at what the Palestinians are calling "unilateral" actions by Israel, such as building at Har Homa in Jerusalem and expanding Israel's presence over the Green Line. In fact, the statement was more balanced than it intended to be for the Palestinians are doing their best to "preempt" final status talks as well.

In direct violation of the Oslo Accords, the Palestinians have been trying to establish governmental institutions in Jerusalem, leading to a cat-and-mouse game with Israel. Israel intermittently threatens to close a few Palestinian offices in Jerusalem, while the Palestinians claim the offices are not part of the Palestinian Authority and therefore are legal under Oslo. In addition, Palestinian Police and other security services have been operating in Jerusalem, as seen in the kidnapping and murder of Palestinians accused of selling land to Israelis.

The Denver communiqué chose to be silent on the recent wave of land dealer murders. It also ignored Palestinian violations of their commitments to act against rioting, as has occurred recently in Hebron and the Gaza Strip. Of course, Israel is used to lopsided international resolutions, particularly from the United Nations General Assembly. But the G-8, aside from the borderline case of Russia, is the forum of the world's most prosperous democracies, and

therefore should be held to a higher standard. The closest thing to any form of mild pressure on the Palestinians was the statement in the communiqué that, "Restoring the sense of security and confidence among Israelis and Palestinians is essential." In case the Palestinians were to be offended by such blistering rhetoric, the industrialized powers quickly admonished themselves by stating that, "We welcome all efforts to promote the region's development of viable and sustainable economies, including assistance to the Palestinians, and urge donors to fulfill pledges made."

The problem with the communiqué's supposedly balanced formula to reinvigorate the peace process is that it helps the Palestinians do exactly what it is urging Israel to desist from: unilateral attempts to affect final status negotiations. The Har Homa project on the one hand, and the Palestinian attempt to block it and impose a general settlement freeze on the other, are both forms of unilateralism.

Israel is, no doubt, interested in cementing its connection to areas which in any conceivable agreement will remain under Israel's control. The Palestinians, by attempting to impose a settlement freeze, are essentially trying to reopen Oslo, which contains no prohibition on building anywhere in the territories, let alone in Jerusalem.

It is understandable that the Palestinians would want to amend Oslo in their favor on the eve of final status talks. What is less understandable is that outside powers backing the peace process would seek to impose such a position on Israel in exchange for another Palestinian promise to combat terrorism.

President Bill Clinton, while answering questions about the Denver communiqué, understated his frustration at the current stalemate, declaring that "it is not self-evident" what outsiders can do to help. Two ways out come to mind: press the Palestinians to drop their demand for a major unilateral Israeli concession, or get Israel to name its price for a settlement freeze. Both of these approaches are fair and have some hope of success. What is sure to fail is the current effort to force Israel to relinquish its rights for nothing more than the renewal of previously broken promises in return.

## Hanegbi's speech

The rush of blood to the head which affected Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's judgment following the High Court's ruling in the Bar-On Affair seems to be contagious. Just as Netanyahu's decision to goad former finance minister Dan Meridor into resigning unleashed a coalition crisis that will reverberate long after yesterday's no-confidence motion, so too will Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi live to regret his outrageous speech in the Knesset yesterday.

Hanegbi was a surprise replacement for Ya'acov Ne'eman when the latter honorably resigned on learning he was to be indicted. On taking over from Ne'eman (who was recently, happily, acquitted), Hanegbi promised to put his "wild days" behind him — incidents ranging from bullying tactics in his student politics days to disconnecting then-premier Yitzhak Rabin's microphone at a Jerusalem rally.

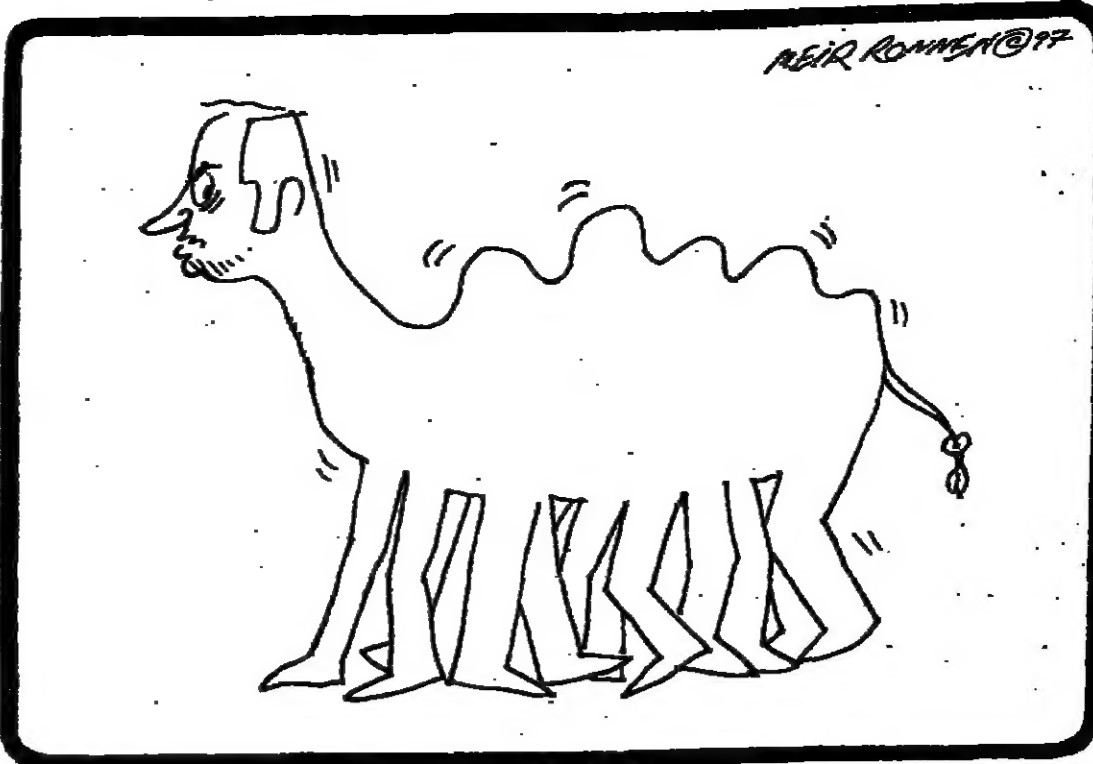
But this promise has been broken, and more than once. The High Court agreed with the attorney-general that although there was no evidence for a criminal indictment, Hanegbi clearly

violated a number of ethical norms in the course of the Bar-On Affair. And yesterday's speech in the Knesset was a return to the political thuggery of his youth.

Hanegbi's name-calling of Labor leader and former chief of general staff Ehud Barak plummeted to a depth which has rarely been reached in the Knesset and hints of the desperation of a government which fears it is going under.

Unfortunately, Hanegbi's ad hominem attack was not the only low blow yesterday. Leah Rabin's labeling of Netanyahu as the "architect of incitement" also breaks the boundaries of what is, and what is not permissible. While a case can be made against Netanyahu for not speaking out loudly enough against those who incited against the late prime minister, he himself was not responsible for their actions.

The prime minister is, however, responsible for Hanegbi's Knesset speech, given that the justice minister was representing the government, and as such he should insist, at the very least, that Hanegbi withdraw his poorly chosen remarks.



## Cry, and you cry alone

WHEN the International Coalition for Missing Israeli Soldiers asked me to write this article for the anniversary of the day my son, Zachary, went missing in 1982, I was very reluctant.

My initial reaction was that readers would call my opinion biased because I am so emotionally bound up in the issue.

What persuaded me to go ahead was the realization that my biggest complaint against the army is that they are not emotionally involved. Those at the top have distanced themselves from the common soldier, relegating contact with suffering families to the lower ranks.

As far as our missing sons are concerned, they act as if there is all the time in the world, but time is not on the side of captured and imprisoned men.

Going by the Hebrew calendar, today marks 15 years since Zachary disappeared, together with Zvi Feldman and Yehuda Katz, near Sultan Yakub in the Lebanon War.

While the war did diminish the problems on our northern border, it left a festering sore on IDF morale.

Where once no soldier would "leave a comrade behind in the field of battle," the army's decision-makers and the politicians have abandoned our missing boys for expediency's sake.

Those on the Left consider the issue an obstacle to the peace process; on the Right, there is a fear that Arab help in finding the missing men would have to be "rewarded" by concessions they might find unpalatable.

And the general public, repelled by the thought that Israel could behave so unethically, prefers to push the whole issue out of its mind.

Those who best understand the families' state of mind are Holocaust survivors, who encountered the same sort of disbelief, followed by denial.

To enquiries, the official response for public consumption is that missing soldiers "are considered alive unless proven otherwise."

### MIRIAM BAUMEL

wise." But this is a cynical distortion. Official inaction all along has as good as said that MIAs should be considered dead, unless proven alive.

It has been left to the families, with no training or facilities, to search for proof that their sons are alive, while simultaneously combating whispered propaganda from Israeli sources that there is

### Why have the authorities abandoned our missing soldiers?

no chance of this. The families' successes — gleaned information from foreign sources, for example — have led to the media's labeling them a "mini-Mossad."

Just recently, acting on information to Israel and the Americans from Yasser Arafat, who was anxious to show compliance with the peace accords, supposed burial sites of MIAs were discovered in Syria. But there was nothing there. It was one of a series of Arab attempts to create the impression that the missing soldiers were dead.

The army, wanting to be done with the issue, had been eager to share with the families the "fact" that their sons were buried in Syria — but it was unwilling to tell them when the information turned out to be baseless. In fact, every past contention of gravesites has proven false.

Earlier this month our military attaché in Washington, Gen. Yoram Yair, a former head of army manpower, admitted to the families in the US that the Americans had notified the Israelis of the unsuccessful effort in Syria to determine their sons' fate.

Why, then, did the Israelis withhold the truth from the families? Because families waiting for a supposed grave to be opened

might be expected to wait quietly, and not press for further investigation.

The families were also notified by the head of the Israel Desk of the US National Security Council that the Sultan Yakub MIAs were not a priority item for the US.

Sadly, this can only be taken as a reflection of Israeli policy on the subject.

The fact that Arafat returned my son's dog tag to prime minister Yitzhak Rabin, even if it was only half of the tag, proved that Arafat had (perhaps still has) contact with those who are holding Zachary. Arafat's promise to Rabin that he would supply full background material has not been fulfilled.

Israel must make it clear to the PLO that no further talks or peace gestures can be made until real information about Israel's MIAs is handed over — and verified.

The odds that the missing soldiers are alive are still 50/50. Why isn't helping them at the top of every Jew's agenda?

"LAUGH and the whole world laughs with you" — how true that is. But "cry and you cry alone" is no less true.

The families of missing soldiers live in daily anguish. Can they be left to cry in solitude? Does Jewish honor and tradition allow us to forsake them?

In the 1950s, a Labor government left Israelis languishing in prison while Egyptian prisoners were released. A Likud government negotiated and freed Syrian prisoners in 1984 knowing other Israeli prisoners were being held by a pro-Syrian PLO group headquartered in Damascus. This is what led to the lopsided Jibril prisoner exchange in 1985.

There are lessons to be learned in past ethical erosion; it should not be an excuse for more mistakes.

Why are our soldiers, our brethren, being left to cry, solitary, in lonely places?

The writer is the mother of Zachary Baumei, missing in action since 1982.

## Clamp of the Denver Boot

Fixated on the government crisis in Jerusalem, we had little attention to spare this week for doings in Denver, like the joint statement issued by the leaders of G-7 — or G-almost-eight — who ended their summit there.

Neither our government nor media noticed that the statement included a directive to Israel and the Palestinians aimed at settling the dispute that has been holding up the negotiations.

The Palestinians want Israel to agree unequivocally not to establish any new settlements, or expand standing ones. Israel has refused, and Egyptian envoy Osama el-Baz has been trying to come up with some ambiguous formula to bring the sides together. He is due in Jerusalem next week.

But the leaders in Denver were anxious to see the talks restarted, and didn't want to wait. While not actually using the word "settlements," they in effect adopted the Palestinians' arguments, and laid down as follows: During the interim phase, until the final arrangement is determined, the sides may not unilaterally determine facts that complicate the negotiations.

Of course, any statement like this is totally counterproductive. All it does is reinforce Yasser Arafat's intransigence. Pleased with this wisdom from Denver, Arafat will not now sit down to negotiations while Israel refuses to halt settlement, including building on Har Homa.

Israel might claim that "unilateral facts," as cited by G-7, includes the Palestinians' unilateral expansion of their security forces beyond Oslo's allocation, and the

### MOSHE ZAK

Palestinian Authority's attempt to control the Arabic education system in Jerusalem. It certainly applies to the Palestinians' violent attempts to change the status quo in Hebron and Gush Katif.

But however justified Israel might be in pointing this out, it won't soften Arafat's stand on the settlements, especially not now

### Domestic crises blind us and embolden others

that well-meaning but shortsighted world leaders have clamped a "Denver Boot" on the process.

THE government, busy with political crisis management, gave no thought to any information campaign that might have prevented the Denver statement, much as it passed up the opportunity for a diplomatic campaign before the Amsterdam summit a week earlier.

Some in the Foreign Ministry could console themselves that the statement emerging from Amsterdam was not dissimilar to our Labor Party's new platform (i.e. upholding the Palestinians' right to self-determination, without ruling out the possibility of a Palestinian state). The government, of course, thinks otherwise.

At Denver, however, Israel got off far less easily. We may yet regret not having lifted a finger to forestall a statement so detrimental

to Israeli-Palestinian negotiations.

Two very wealthy Jews are known to have visited President Clinton on the eve of the summit, asking him to pressure Israel. Their words were echoed both in the summit statement and in what Clinton said at a press conference on the urgent need "to invigorate the Oslo accord, now deadlocked."

We cannot be certain that pre-emptive action on the government's part would have had any effect. Nor that Prime Minister Netanyahu, had he gone to this week's UN General Assembly meeting in New York, would have heard a different explanation of the Denver statement from President Clinton — perhaps that it was not only aimed at Israeli settlements, but also at Palestinian moves during the interim period.

Domestic crises seem to determine not only our own national agenda, but also international attitudes to Israel.

Take el-Baz's toward the Israeli delegation that flew to Cairo a few days ago to discuss the renewal of Israeli-Palestinian talks.

The flight was pointless, bringing us no benefit. But it did allow el-Baz to insult three out of four delegation members, whom he left hanging about outside, while he met with attorney Yitzhak Molcho.

Had our cabinet not been so preoccupied, that delegation wouldn't have gone to Cairo; had it gone, it would certainly have protested el-Baz's rudeness.

The writer, a veteran journalist, comments on current affairs.

## Nurse Barbie

HELEN MOTRO

In a recent letter in an American newspaper a mother commented on changing times.

Out to buy a nurse doll for her daughter at the local Toys R Us, the clerk reprimanded her. "Lady," he said, "this is 1997. You ought to have higher aspirations for your daughter. You shouldn't want her to be a nurse when she can be a doctor."

After reading that letter I drove to the newly opened Toys R Us at a nearby mall.

"Nurse Barbie?" the salesgirl echoed. "Just a minute." In a little while she was back. "I'm sorry, we had Nurse Barbie, but they're all sold out."

But look over there," she pointed to a large stack of untouched cartons in the far corner of Barbie cornucopia. "We have lots of Dr. Barbies left. Why don't you take one of them? They're really almost as good."

Israel is still far from the point that has been reached in the US after three decades of the women's movement. Whatever women's movement that exists is still considered far on the fringes. Most people, women and men, are insensitive to the issue, whether it be a question of speech or of substance.

While Alice Miller, certified pilot and holder of a degree in aeronautical engineering, was in the midst of her ultimately successful court battle to be allowed into pilot training in the IAF, a male acquaintance of her family told me with a leer, "Alice seems not to be so interested in the case any more now she has a boyfriend."

How many accomplishments does it take to win respect? Men might think that comment anywhere, but in the US today they would consider before giving it

### In Israel, it's still mainly men who count

voice, or would at least express it less blatantly.

The Israeli rule of thumb is: Managers are men. When you see a female employee in an Israeli office, you're playing the right odds by assuming she's support staff. "One of the girls" (which is what many women employees call themselves, regardless of age). Pointing out that the "girl" in question may have daughters of her own well past girlhood makes no impression.

Pejorative? Patronizing? "Of course not!" a (male) speaker will insist. "It was just being friendly."

But reality mirrors language and influences self-image. Consequently in too many Israeli organizations, the women who work there really never grow up.

I HAVE seen the gifts that women who travel on El Al's business class are given. A woman receives, with perfect "equality," the same complimentary toiletry kit containing solely male accessories that every business class passenger gets.

Then she is free to choose: She can either throw away the razor and the aftershave, or donate them to a male.

But I doubt whether Israeli women who travel business class are offended, or even think about insisting that if the airline is handing out sex-linked gifts, they are entitled to one appropriate for women.

The masculine perks on Business Class may be small things, but they are symbols nevertheless. No woman — or man — can fail to imbibe their message: It's mainly men who count.

The Hebrew language is as male-dominated as Israeli society. Astonishingly, the word for husband continues to be "master," for wife, the term is the generic "woman." Yet verbal sexual bias is a non-issue.

Webster's defines feminism as "a doctrine advocating political, economic and social equality of the sexes." But in Israel the word feminism still evokes a wince. It is pronounced with caution, and prefaced by apology: "I'm not a feminist, but..."

In the US Barbie dolls still sell big, but with their exaggerated curves, vacant stares and platinum ponytails, they are often lampooned as artifacts of a bygone role model.

In Israel, if Barbies are a symbol of anything, it is the upwardly mobile parents who can afford these expensive imported items.

It takes an exceptionally determined woman in Israel to want to become Dr. Barbie. After all, she's still busy playing with the Nurse Barbie they gave her when she was a little girl.

The writer is an attorney.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### INTOLERANCE

Sir, — Israel, the fulfillment of my dreams, is becoming a country with features I don't like. Israel has been very effective in fighting terrorism of its Arab enemies. It has been ineffective in opposing internal terrorism by the religious Orthodox minority. Verbal and physical violence by religious radicals goes unpunished in the State of Israel. Israel is a democracy with strong theocratic features. The religious minority has become a state within a state. Intolerance is tolerated in the name of religion.

A pluralistic democracy respects the rights of minorities. However, a democracy should not tolerate intolerance even if practiced by a religious minority. Heinrich Heine said "wherever they burn books, they will also, in the end, burn human beings." The verbal violence of the fundamentalists invariably leads to physical violence. The only time I have been physically assaulted in my adult life was by antisemites who hated me because I am a Jew; and by Orthodox Jews in Israel because I am a secular Jew.

EMANUEL TANAY, M.D.

Grosse Pointe Park, Michigan.

### TRAVEL BY RAIL

Sir, — The fact that I have relied on Egged for interurban transport these past 30 years does not indicate any preference for travel by bus. It simply means that a lengthy "scenic" journey from the capital to the coast and back on an antiquated railway train is not for me.

I have long maintained that an efficient, modern rail system in Israel is not just a pipe dream, and Felicity Amoch hit the nail on the head in her outspoken article "Levels of evil," June 8. Every possible consideration — saving lives as well as public money, the courage to defy vested interests, preserving the environment — can be mustered in favor of her arguments.

Those Stone Age bureaucrats who have the gall to suggest that interurban rail travel is not practicable here owing to "lack of funds" will only change their tune when we, the long-suffering public, take this issue to the Knesset and mount a nationwide campaign. As far as this veteran reader is concerned: the sooner the better!

GABRIEL A. SIVAN

Jerusalem.

### ECONOMIC CONDITIONS IN WEST BANK AND GAZA

Sir, — I write in response to your editorial of May 29. "Powder keg of corruption." That editorial implies that a "recent UN survey" corroborates the presumed link between corruption and the general economic crisis.

If this "recent UN survey" refers to the Quarterly Report on Economic and Social Conditions in the West Bank and Gaza Strip produced by the Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator in the Occupied Territories (UNSCO), allow me to clarify the following: The Quarterly Report indicates that, based on preliminary estimates, per-capita income in the West Bank and Gaza Strip (and not just in Gaza as the editorial states) has declined about 36 percent during the 1992-1996 period. As the report states, this is the result of the combination of falling incomes and a growing population. Falling incomes, however, are attributed not to alleged corruption, as implied in *The Jerusalem Post* editorial, but mainly to the closure policy imposed by the Israeli authorities since 1993.

FRANCIS DUBOIS, Deputy Special Coordinator in the Occupied Territories

Gaza.

مكاتب التحرير







## BUSINESS

in brief

### Offer-Wertheim UMB option extended

The Knesset Finance committee approved yesterday the Offer-Wertheim group's request to exercise its option to purchase an additional 25 percent of Bank Mizrahi at a cost of NIS 445 million. This will bring the group's holding in the bank to 51 percent. The committee approved the increase by five votes to two, with Shalom Simhon and Ophir Pines (both Labor) voting against.

The committee was actually discussing a request from Accountant General Shai Talmon to retroactively extend the option-to-purchase date, which officially expired one July 24 last year. Both former finance ministers Avraham Shohat and Dan Meridor agreed in principle to an extension of the option for 12 months.

David Harris

### Saudi prince to open Planet Hollywood in Beirut

Saudi business magnate Prince Waleed Bin Talal has signed a partnership agreement with a Lebanese businessman to operate a Planet Hollywood restaurant in Beirut, his Riyadh office said in a statement published yesterday. Under the agreement, Al-Waleed owns 49 percent of the restaurant, which will open in Beirut next year. Lebanese businessman Khalid Ali Hammoud will own the rest.

Waleed, a nephew of Saudi King Fahd, has a huge international portfolio of investments worth billions of dollars, including hotels, banks, real estate, theme parks, computers and airlines. Waleed wants to expand his business to the media market in Beirut and is planning to buy stakes in Lebanon's leading television station, the Lebanese Broadcasting Corporation-International, the newspaper *Al-Hayar* reported yesterday.

Reuter

### Thomson, Aerospatiale in aircraft leasing deal

A French consortium has set up a joint venture with investors from the United Arab Emirates to develop aircraft leasing operations in the Middle East, the local Emirates News Agency reported yesterday. It said the French group includes the defense electronics group Thomson-CSF, the state-owned aerospace company Aerospatiale and the arms manufacturer Giat Industries.

The venture, which has been called Aircraft Development Company, is part of an Emirates program that requires foreign companies winning arms deals worth more than \$10 million to reinvest at least 30 percent of the value in the Emirates, it said.

Reuter

### Eldan to represent Eurodollar

Eldan Rent a Car has signed a marketing contract with Eurodollar International by which the Israeli side will market for the local traveling clientele the products of the London-based company, which operates 12,000 vehicles in some three dozen countries.

Jerusalem Post Staff

### Moslem protest forces Nike to recall shoes

Nike Inc. yesterday recalled more than 38,000 pairs of athletic shoes with a logo that outraged the Moslem community. A spokesman for the Beaverton, Oregon-based athletic apparel giant said the shoes sparked protests because the flame logo looked like the Arabic word for Allah.

"There is in excess of 38,000 pairs in our distribution centers worldwide that we'll be recalling, and we'll obliterate the logo before reintroducing it...through our retail chain," said Nike spokesman Roy Agostino.

Reuter

## Shekel settles at 3.5 to dollar after volatile trading

Central bank doesn't interfere; dollar up 8.3% this year

By Jerusalem Post Staff

The shekel depreciated yesterday by another 0.63 percent, settling at 3.506 to the dollar, in the aftermath of an exceptionally volatile trading day during which the Israeli currency fell at one point to an all-time low of 3.6 to the dollar.

In all, since last Thursday, the dollar has appreciated against the shekel by 2.7%, and since the beginning of the year, when it traded at NIS 3.238, it has appreciated by 8.3%.

The Bank of Israel's basket of

leading foreign currencies yesterday appreciated by 0.72%, and closed at NIS 3.8142.

Bankers said that in addition to this week's coalition crisis and last week's alteration of the exchange-rate mechanism, trading was also influenced by the expiration yesterday of foreign exchange options traded on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange.

The coalition crisis is casting a shadow over the markets, which are averse to uncertainty, while last week's 1.2% interest rate cut has offset the previous impression that the central bank will

maintain its strong-shekel monetary policy regardless of the so-called diagonal mechanism's fate.

In addition to these circumstances, the markets also responded to reports that National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon, the prospective finance minister, will launch fiscally-expansive policies, which in turn will accelerate inflation and further weaken the shekel.

However, judging by the intense profit-taking which brought the trading day to a relatively anti-climactic aftermath,

any of these factors for now seem to amount to little more than speculation, analysts said.

A senior official at the Bank of Israel said the central bank did not interfere in yesterday's trading adding that short-term speculators must now pay thought to the wisdom of the one-dimensional bets they previously placed on an ever-appreciating shekel.

In the future, such market players would do well to integrate a risk-premium component into their currency deals, said the official.



### Return to sender

A customs officer examines a rubbish container in the German port of Bremerhaven yesterday. The rubbish, which was exported from Germany to Lebanon, came back when Greenpeace found that it also contained toxic waste.

(Reuter)

## El Al, government clash over size of share offer

By DAVID HARRIS

El Al board chairman Joseph Ciechanover yesterday told the Knesset privatization subcommittee that he is opposed to the government-appointed committee's proposal to sell all the company's shares in one flotation next year.

Ciechanover favors an initial 51% sale to ensure a majority of the shares are out of government control. The El Al privatization committee, chaired by Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's economic adviser Moshe Leon, favors a one-off 100% offering in Tel Aviv, to encourage domestic participation in the sale of the national carrier.

"I had and still have doubts about the sale of all the shares," Ciechanover said. "The company's [economic] condition is not the best, therefore I doubt the government will attain its full value."

By selling 51%, the Government Companies Law will no longer apply, which should mean, according to Attorney-General Elyakim Rubinstein, that the company would be able to fly on Shabbat, something El Al management and workers say is vital to its existence.

Ciechanover also hoped the company will remain in Israeli hands and requested the creation of a supervisory method to ensure the shares are not purchased en masse by foreign interests.

While in debt, El Al does not need any external help from the banks or the government, he added.

On the financial side, Leon attempted to dispel rumors that the government will not receive any money for the sale. "One must distinguish between the price at which it will be sold, and what needs to be done first," said Leon. "I'm not saying it will be a zero price."

The workers demanded, once again, their rights be protected in any sale.

"We don't want presents, if that's your aim," workers' committee chairman Michael Kohavi said to Government Companies Authority director-general Tzipi Livni, a member of Leon's committee. "We don't want gifts such as a refrigerator, as we keep hearing, but financial guarantees."

Representing the transport division of the Histadrut, Haim Reyton warned that if, after privatization, workers' rights have not been incorporated into sale agreements, employees will have no rights at all.

"What if some foreign company takes control and says: 'We want to maintain 20-odd El Al airplanes in Seattle?'" asked Reyton.

MK Yehuda Harel (Third Way) called on the workers not to fight privatization, but to do their utmost to be an integral part of the process. A compensation package for workers who will lose their jobs must be worked out as soon as possible, he added.

To this, the workers' representatives said so far no-one has been prepared to explain the framework for such guarantees.

Subcommittee chairman Amnon Rubinstein (Meretz) asked that the Interministerial Committee on Privatization take a serious look at Ciechanover's proposal for an initial 51% flotation, to see how that influences the company's performance.

In the coming weeks, the cabinet committee will begin discussing the sale, with Leon saying it is highly unlikely the proposal will be for the sale of anything other than all the shares.

## Samsung to open local R&D center within the year

By JENNIFER FRIEDLIN

Samsung Electronics Co., the Korean consumer and industrial electronics giant, expects to open a local research development center within the year, Jong Goo Li, the company's Israel-based representative, said yesterday.

The announcement was made dur-

ing a ceremony to celebrate the opening of the company's Herzliya Pithah-based office.

The company does not yet know the size of the investment it will make in the R&D center, which will be located either near the Technion or in Herzliya Pithah, Goo Li said.

Researchers will focus on developing telecommunications technologies, semiconductor and software, he said.

The company is currently exploring prospects for joint ventures with 14 companies, including Telrad, Rad, Tadiran Communications, Chip Express and many start-up firms.

The decision to open the representative office and to set up a R&D

facility visit follows a year of intensive negotiations with the company, said Shachar Meidan, the Center for Business Promotion's foreign investment specialist.

However, since March, when senior Samsung Electronics Co. first visited Israel, the company has moved quickly to set up local operations, Meidan said.

Samsung's commitments reflect Korea's continued interest in setting up joint ventures with local firms and investing here, Meidan said.

A senior delegation from Hanwha Corporation, another Korean conglomerate, recently visited Israel. The company expects to open a local office in July.

## PM's Office reluctant to cut NIS 600m. more from budget

By DAVID HARRIS

The Prime Minister's Office is reluctant to endorse the Treasury's proposal for a NIS 600 million supplementary budget cut, a senior aide to Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu yesterday confirmed.

Meanwhile, a senior official in the Accountant-General's office told *The Jerusalem Post* yesterday that the planned cut may be too small to streamline public spending in line with the government's target for fiscal 1997 of a 2.8 percent deficit-to-GDP ratio.

Netanyahu and then-finance minister Dan Meridor - after discussion with Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel - agreed last week to a NIS 600m. cut in public spending, on top of the NIS 7.2 billion cut approved by the Knesset last December.

There is, though, a growing feeling in the Prime Minister's Office and the Treasury that it is already too late to implement the additional cut this year. With discussion of next year's state budget already under way in the Treasury and the first government debate on the issue about a month away.

The 1997 budget deficit must be no greater than 2.8% of the gross domestic product, according to the government's own target.

It is with this in mind that the additional cut has been felt to be necessary. Treasury director-general David Brodet predicted in March that the deficit would be as high as 3.3% of GDP without a substantial cut of as much as NIS 1.5b.

Economists predict the deficit may even reach 3.6% of GDP by year's end.

Controversy now surrounds the date at which Netanyahu received the full details of the 1997 cut. Meridor claimed on Monday he had presented "the size and full details of the cut" to Netanyahu a month ago.

So far the Prime Minister's Office refuses to comment on Meridor's claim.

A spokesman said: "With all due respect to him, Meridor's comments are no longer relevant. We will continue with the budget deliberations once a finance minister is appointed. Our attention is now turning to the 1998 budget."

Head of the Labor faction on the Knesset Finance Committee Avraham Shohat is of the opinion that Netanyahu is delaying the decision, so he will not have to ask ministers to make a further spending cut this year.

## Peptor hopes to raise \$35m. in trans-continental IPOs

By JENNIFER FRIEDLIN

Peptor, a Rehovot-based drug development company, will set out on a roadshow in the next few weeks to try and secure financing for its expected initial public offering, which is scheduled to take place simultaneously on the Nasdaq Stock Market and Brussels' Easdaq Exchange, a Peptor spokesman said.

Peptor plans to sell two million shares, or 25 percent of its stock, and hopes to raise between \$30m. and \$35m. based on a pre-offering valuation of \$85m. to \$100m. The shares are expected to begin selling at \$14 to \$16 per share.

Peptor opted for a joint listing on the nascent Easdaq Exchange due to growing interest by European firms in biotechnology products. Peptor's spokesman said. If the offering is successful, the firm will become the first Israeli listing on the Brussels-based exchange. First Boston will underwrite the share offering.

The company has not yet registered sales, as all its drugs are in the pre-clinical stage. The company's valuation is based on its proprietary

technologies and sales potential.

"It's normal for a biotech or a high-tech company that doesn't yet have products for the market to go public," said Ari Itzkowitz, a high-tech analyst at Zannex Securities. "Things are done on the basis that the product the firm comes out with will have revenues in the future."

Peptor uses advanced screening methods to study the active sites of proteins to create peptide drugs that treat a variety of diseases, such as pancreatic cancer, fungal infections, rheumatoid arthritis and AIDS. The company's treatments are also used in the diagnosis of breast cancer.

Meanwhile, Peptor said it signed a deal with Teva Pharmaceuticals to develop a treatment for autoimmune diseases, such as rheumatoid arthritis. According to the deal, Teva, which holds 8% of Peptor's shares, will invest \$45.5m. in the joint venture. The company has signed several significant research and development agreements over the last two years, including one with leading US biotechnology firm Neoprobe to develop a peptide, for cancer detection.

## ISRAELI MONEY MARKETS

Patah (foreign currency deposit rates) (11.9.96)				
Currency (deposit term)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS	
U.S. dollar (\$250,000)	4.750	5.000	5.375	
Pound sterling (£100,000)	2.0225	2.0718	2.1038	
German mark (DM 200,000)	1.825	1.825	1.825	
Swiss franc (SF 200,000)	0.825	0.750	1.000	
Yen (10 million yen)				
(Rates vary higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)				
Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (24.6.97)				
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German mark	2.0225	2.0718	1.99	2.10
Pound sterling	1.8224	1.8224	1.82	1.82
French franc	0.5995	0.6141	0.58	0.63
Japanese yen (100)	3.0373	3.1111	2.89	3.15
Dutch florin	1.7775	1.8416	1.77	1.86
Swiss franc	2.4275	2.4855	2.39	2.52
Swedish krona	0.4819	0.4829	0.44	0.47
Norwegian krona	0.4818	0.4833	0.47	0.50
Danish krone	0.5311	0.5440	0.52	0.55
Finnish mark	0.5767	0.5932	0.56	0.70
Canadian dollar	2.5128	2.5739	2.47	2.60
Australian dollar	2.6184	2.6821	2.58	2.65
S. African rand	0.7755	0.7944	0.70	0.77
Belgian franc (10)	0.5901	1.0040	0.58	1.02
Austrian schilling (10)	2.8748	2.9445	2.83	2.88
Italian lira (1000)	2.0639	2.1222	2.04	2.15
Jordanian dinar	4.9219	5.0415	4.88	5.011
Egyptian pound	1.0000	1.0800	1.00	1.08
ECU	3.9247	4.0511	—	—
Irish punt	8.2978	8.3958	8.18	8.45
Spanish peseta (100)	2.3948	2.4530	2.36	2.47
*These rates vary according to bank. **Bank of Israel.				
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הכזמן האחרון







# Sampras heads for 4th title

Hingis struggles but scrapes by; Chang out

WIMBLEDON (AP) — Pete Sampras powered smoothly into the second round of Wimbledon with a straight-set victory yesterday, while women's top seed Martina Hingis struggled to defeat a qualifier with a world ranking of 218.

Three-time champion Sampras, hoping to regain the title he lost last year to Richard Krajicek, coasted to a 6-4, 6-4, 6-2 win over Sweden's Mikael Tillström.

Sampras was broken only once, in the fourth game of the match, and was always in command. He served out the match at love, finishing with his ninth ace.

After achieving little on the clay courts last month, he felt a lot better on grass.

"After what happened on the grass and the whole clay court season, which wasn't great, I felt this is my place, this is where I'm supposed to win," Sampras said.

Hingis, repeatedly bouncing her racket on the turf in frustration, needed six match points before finally completing a 6-4, 6-4 victory over Anne Kremer of Luxembourg on the new No. 1 court.

Kremer, an amateur who plays at Stanford University, stretched the world's top-ranked player to the limit. But her serve let her down at crucial moments — especially when she double faulted three times while leading 3-2 in the first set.

While Hingis struggled, seeded players started tumbling in quick succession, with four going out early on the second day of the tournament and Michael Chang losing before darkness fell.

The No. 5 seed staged a late fight-back against Australian Todd Woodbridge but lost 7-5 (7-5), 3-6, 6-2, 3-6, 8-6.

Woodbridge led 5-1 in the fifth set, Chang hit back to tie but never had a point to win the match.

Men's No. 7 Mark Philippoussis, No. 11 Gustavo Kuerten and No. 17 Jonas Björkman, and women's No. 13 Kimberly Po went out early.

Greg Rusedski, already up two sets to love and 3-1 in the third from Monday, completed a 7-6 (8-6), 7-6 (8-6), 6-3 triumph over Philippoussis in a matchup of the two biggest servers in the game. Rusedski needed only 14 minutes to complete his victory.

Three more seeds with a wealth of Wimbledon experience had no problems reaching the second round.



TOP SERVICE — Britain's Greg Rusedski serves to Australia's Mark Philippoussis.

No. 8 Boris Becker, aiming for a fourth Wimbledon title and his first since 1989, cruised to a 6-3, 6-2, 6-3 victory over Spain's Marcos Aurelio Gorriz.

Aganxa Sanchez-Vicario seeded

eight among the women, routed Britain's Claire Wood 6-0, 6-0; and No. 10 Conchita Martinez dropped only three games in a 6-1, 6-2 victory over Karina Haboudova.

Men's No. 3 seed Yevgeny

Kafelnikov, who lost in the first round last year to Britain's Tim Henman, had little trouble this time, dropping only six games in a 6-4, 6-2, 6-0 victory over Juan-Antonio Marin of Spain.

# Israel surrenders ATP rights

By HEATHER CHAIT

It's game, set and match for the Ramat Hasharon tournament, which in its heyday offered packed stands and an annual taste of tennis of an international standard.

Rights to the event, Israel's only ATP tournament, were officially surrendered yesterday by the Israel Tennis Center to businessman Sasson Khakhshouri, with the approval of the Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP).

Khakhshouri, who divides his time between Switzerland and Israel, plans to transfer the tournament to Tashkent as part of his project to nurture tennis in Uzbekistan.

The tournament, known from its beginnings in 1979 as the Riklis, after sponsor Meshulam Riklis, and then the Eisenberg Israel Open, after Joyce Eisenberg, was due to be held in September this year with Goran Ivanisevic competing.

Executive Director of the ITC, Ehud Federman, yesterday outlined the factors which led to the milestone decision.

"Despite the prestige that it meant for Israel, the

tournament was a luxury and a huge investment we could not afford. It was also not critical for local tennis, especially in the post-Mansdorf and Bloom era. The tournament was too big for our young players who did not usually make it through the early rounds. This meant lower attendances and was detrimental for our sponsors."

Federman was adamant that the decision stemmed from not only economic but also professional reasons.

"The money released from the sale (approximately \$1 million) will be plugged into projects like challenges and youth tournaments," he said.

Is this step the final conclusion for the tournament which brought players like Jimmy Connors and Thomas Muster to this country and immortalized Shlomo Glickstein, Shahar Perkis, Amos Mansdorf (who won it in 1987) and Gilad Bloom? Federman is optimistic.

"Khakhshouri has invested widely in Israeli tennis and is a member of the international board of the ITC. He retains the option to bring the tournament back here if he chooses and being the Zionist he is, we hope this will happen one day."

## National hoopsters take on Lithuania

By ELI GRONER

The European Men's Basketball Championships tips off tonight in Spain, as 16 teams will vie for the coveted title. Defending champion and Olympic silver medalists Yugoslavia are the pre-tournament favorites, but they should be seriously challenged by both Italy and Spain.

The 16 teams are divided into four divisions. After every team plays each division opponent, the top three teams will play each of the top three finishers in another division (i.e. A plays B; C plays D). The four teams with the best cumulative records in each new division will face each other in the quarter-finals.

Israel's first game will be at 11:30 tonight (live broadcast, Channel 1) against A division opponent Lithuania. On Thursday, coach Zvi Scherf's squad will play Slovenia and on Friday the national team takes on France.

It is a new-look Israeli club with six of the team's members participating in their first European Championships. Gone are stalwarts Doron Jamchev, Motti

Daniel and Adi Gordon. In their stead are first-time players such as Oded Katash, Gur Shelef and Uri Cohen-Mintz.

Israel should be able to advance to the second round. While each of its division opponents are considered stronger on paper, they are all participating in the tournament without some key players.

Tonight's game is against a depleted Lithuanian squad. The silver medalists from 1995 are not nearly as strong this time around. New coach Jonas Kazlauskas will be without Arvidas Sabonis and Sharunas Marciulionis, two NBA players who rarely rested in the previous championship. The one player the Israelis will have to contain is the fantastic small forward, Arturas Karnishovas.

A Division: Israel, Lithuania,

Slovenia, France

B Division: Russia, Bosnia,

Greece, Turkey

C Division: Poland, Latvia,

Yugoslavia, Italy

D Division: Croatia, Germany,

Ukraine, Spain

Israel's roster: Nadav Henefeld,

Ofer Fleisher, Lior Arditi, Doron

Shelef, Amir Muchtar, Oded Katash,

Uri Cohen-Mintz, Gur Shelef, Papi

Turkeman, David Brings.

## Soccer league play opens August 2

By DEREK FATTAL

It may just be the start of summer with strawberry and cream teas being served at Wimbledon, but many of the country's soccer fans will already be circling their calendars for the first weekend in August when the 1997-98 season officially kicks off in the National League and Second Division, and they can begin cracking their sunflower seed shells in earnest.

The Israel Football Association published the new season's fixture list yesterday. Current champions Be'er Jerusalem have a relatively easy opener at Teddy Stadium against, newly promoted Ironi Ashdod, while Second Division titlists Hapoel Ashkelon have an opportunity to begin their winning ways hosting the capital's second outfit Hapoel Jerusalem.

State Cup champions Hapoel Beersheba open their roster of matches at home against Bnei Yehuda, while Maccabi Tel Aviv take on Hapoel Kfar Sava. Other first round matches in the top flight pit Hapoel Haifa against Maccabi Petah Tikva, Ironi Rishon LeZion play Hapoel Beit She'an, while Maccabi Herzliya take on Hapoel Tel Aviv.

The curtainraiser weekend's most interesting fixture is Maccabi Haifa's visit to last year's surprise team Hapoel Petah Tikva.

The IFA's computer demonstrated a human touch by ensuring that clubs in the top flight will each take on Maccabi Tel Aviv then Be'er Jerusalem in consecutive rounds thereby ensuring a nervous couple of sleepless weekends for many fans.

In the Second Division, newcomers Hapoel Lod open against Hapoel Ramat Gan, while the other new kids on the block — Bnei Sakhrin — travel to Zefram Holon who were relegated from the National League this year.

Hapoel Taiba who dropped down a division after just one season in the National League face Hakoah Ramat Gan.

Competitive play begins in July for Be'er Jerusalem, Hapoel Beersheba, and Hapoel Petah Tikva who are all involved in European Cup competition.

## Surging Mets down Braves for fifth straight win

NEW YORK (AP) — Rick Reed outpitched John Smoltz, and Carl Everett hit a two-run homer Monday night that sent the surging New York Mets to their fifth straight victory, 3-2 over the Atlanta Braves.

In their first test of the season against the National League champions, the Mets measured up. They stopped the Braves' three-game winning streak and left Smoltz (6-7), the reigning NL Cy Young winner, winless in six consecutive starts.

Reed (5-4) won with a six-hitter. He gave up two runs and three hits in the first three innings but little else.

The Mets won for the 26th time in 40 games. In a season full of pleasant surprises, they pulled within five games of the NL East leaders by winning the opener of the three-game series.

**Expos 5, Reds 0**  
Jim Bullinger pitched a four-hitter for his fourth career shutout and F.P. Santangelo homered to lead the host Montreal Expos to their 13th victory in 16 games.

Bullinger (5-6) pitched his second shutout this season and his sixth career complete game. He retired the first 11 Reds before Lenny Harris hit a two-out double in the fourth.

John Smiley (5-9) allowed four runs — three earned — and six hits in 6 2/3 innings. He lost his third consecutive start, his second straight since coming off the disabled list June 16.

**Dodgers 5, Rockies 3**  
Eric Karros and Raul Mondesi homered on consecutive pitches, and Hideo Nomo allowed five hits in eight innings to lead the host Los Angeles Dodgers to victory.

Karros and Mondesi connected in the first inning, when the Dodgers scored all their runs off Kevin Ritz (5-7). Two of the runs were unearned because of an error by first baseman Andres Galarraga.

Nomo (7-6), in his first game against Colorado since he no-hit them at Coors Field last September 17, struck out five and walked three. Darren Hall finished with one-hit relief for his first NL save and his first in the majors since 1995, when he was with Toronto.

**AMERICAN LEAGUE**  
Yankees 5, Tigers 2

David Cone struck out 16, his highest total in six years, and Cecil Fielder hit a three-run homer against his former team to lead visiting New York to victory.

Cone (8-3), who had shoulder

surgery to repair an aneurysm on May 10, 1996, allowed four hits in eight innings — two were homers by Bob Hamelin and Damian Easley — and walked two.

Cone, who has lost just once in 13 starts since April 16, set his career high when he fanned 19 — one short of the record for a nine-inning game — for the New York Mets at Philadelphia on Oct. 6, 1991.

Fielder, making his second trip

Monday's NL results: Montreal 5, Cincinnati 0; N.Y. Mets 3, Atlanta 2; Philadelphia 9, Florida 3; Chicago Cubs 3, St. Louis 0; Pittsburgh 6, Houston 0; Los Angeles 5, Colorado 3; San Diego 11, San Francisco.

Monday's AL results: N.Y. Yankees 5, Detroit 2; Minnesota 7, Cleveland 2; Boston 7, Toronto 6; Milwaukee 5, Baltimore 0; Chicago White Sox 7, Kansas City 6; Anaheim 1, Texas 0; Seattle 6, Oakland 5.

to Tiger Stadium since Detroit traded him to the Yankees last July 31, hit his eighth homer and walked once in a 2-for-3 night. Felipe Lira (4-4) lost his second straight decision following four straight wins.

**Brewers 5, Orioles 0**  
Jeff D'Amico pitched a four-hitter for his first career complete

NATIONAL LEAGUE				
East Division				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
Atlanta	47	27	.635	-
Florida	43	30	.589	3 1/2
Montreal	42	31	.575	4
New York	42	32	.568	5
Philadelphia	23	49	.319	23
Central Division				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
Houston	37	38	.493	-
Pittsburgh	34	40	.459	2 1/2
St. Louis	33	40	.452	3
Cincinnati	30	43	.411	6
Chicago	29	45	.392	7 1/2
West Division				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
San Francisco	42	32	.568	-
Colorado	39	36	.520	3 1/2
Los Angeles	37	37	.500	5
San Diego	32	42	.432	10

AMERICAN LEAGUE				
East Division				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
Baltimore	48	23	.676	-
New York	41	32	.562	8
Toronto	33	37	.471	14 1/2
Boston	33	40	.452	16
Detroit	32	39	.451	16
Central Division				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
Cleveland	37	33	.529	-
Milwaukee	35	35	.500	2
Chicago	35	37	.486	3
Kansas City	34	38	.468	4
Minnesota	34	38	.468	4 1/2
West Division				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
Seattle	43	31	.581	-
Anaheim	39	35	.524	3 1/2
Texas	38	36	.500	5
Oakland	30	46	.396	14

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# El Al guilty of age discrimination – High Court

By Jerusalem Post Staff and Itim

The High Court set a precedent yesterday when it ruled that El Al stewards can continue working until 65. In a majority opinion, the court said El Al's previous collective agreement, which forced stewards to retire at 60, is annulled because it is contrary to the Equal Work Opportunities Law, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of age.

Most of the stewards who petitioned the court will not benefit from the victory, since they retired between 1989 and 1991 – before age discrimination was prohibited by law in 1995.

The stewards' case was originally heard in Tel Aviv Labor Court. The stewards argued that the collective agreement discriminated against them, because ground stewards may retire at 65. El Al claimed that discrimination was not the issue, but that stewards' job required physical strength and an attractive appearance.

ance.

The labor court accepted El Al's position, contending that the job requires physical strength.

The stewards then appealed to National Labor Court, which ruled that retirement age should be the same, 65, for ground and air stewards.

After the National Labor Court's favorable decision, stewards whose specific demands had not been met petitioned the High Court.

Justices Yitzhak Zamir and Dorit Beinisch ruled that the collective agreement, which had forced stewards to retire at 60, was discriminatory and rejected El Al's claim that such discrimination was inevitable by the nature of the job.

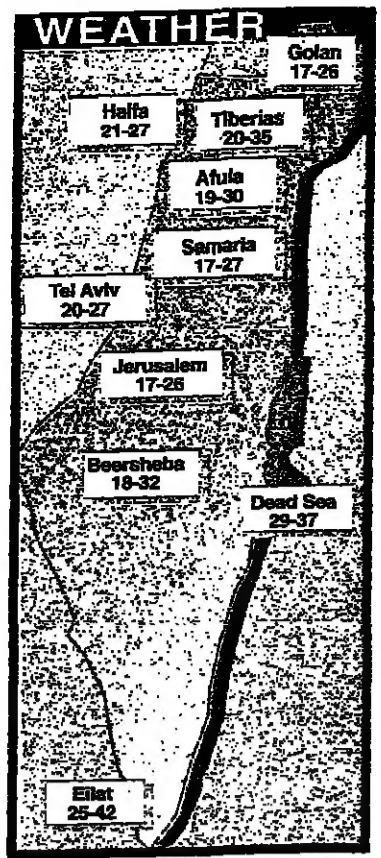
Moreover, Zamir maintained that while "an attractive appearance" may benefit the company, it cannot be the grounds for dismissal. He also said that a drastic deterioration in physical strength and appearance does not necessarily occur between 60 and 65.



**Dedicating Yitzhak Rabin Park**

Leah Rabin wipes away a tear at yesterday's dedication of Yitzhak Rabin Park, as her daughter Dalia Pelosof (center) and Jewish National Fund chairman Moshe Rivlin look on. At the ceremony, held near the monument to those who opened the road to Jerusalem in the War of Independence – Rabin then commanded the Harel Brigade – Leah Rabin called Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu 'the architect of the incitement campaign' that led to her husband's death.

(Brian Hendler)



## AROUND THE WORLD

LOW HIGH

	C	F	C	F
Amsterdam	11	52	18	64
Berlin	11	52	13	55
Buenos Aires	22	72	35	95
Cairo	24	75	33	91
Chicago	10	50	17	63
Copenhagen	12	54	18	64
Frankfurt	12	54	19	66
Geneva	11	52	18	64
Helsinki	12	54	19	66
Hong Kong	25	77	29	84
Jakarta	22	72	28	82
London	14	57	26	79
Los Angeles	10	50	19	66
Madrid	18	64	25	77
Manila	14	57	20	68
Montreal	13	55	23	73
Moscow	17	63	32	90
New York	21	70	29	84
Paris	12	54	20	68
Rome	15	59	26	79
Stockholm	12	54	21	70
Sydney	16	61	20	68
Tokyo	20	68	30	86
Toronto	17	63	22	72
Vancouver	11	52	17	63
Zurich	10	50	17	63

## Winning cards and numbers

The winning cards in yesterday's first Chance draw were the ace of spades, queen of hearts, ace of diamonds, and jack of clubs. The results of the second draw were the 9 of spades, 8 of hearts, ace of diamonds, and queen of clubs.

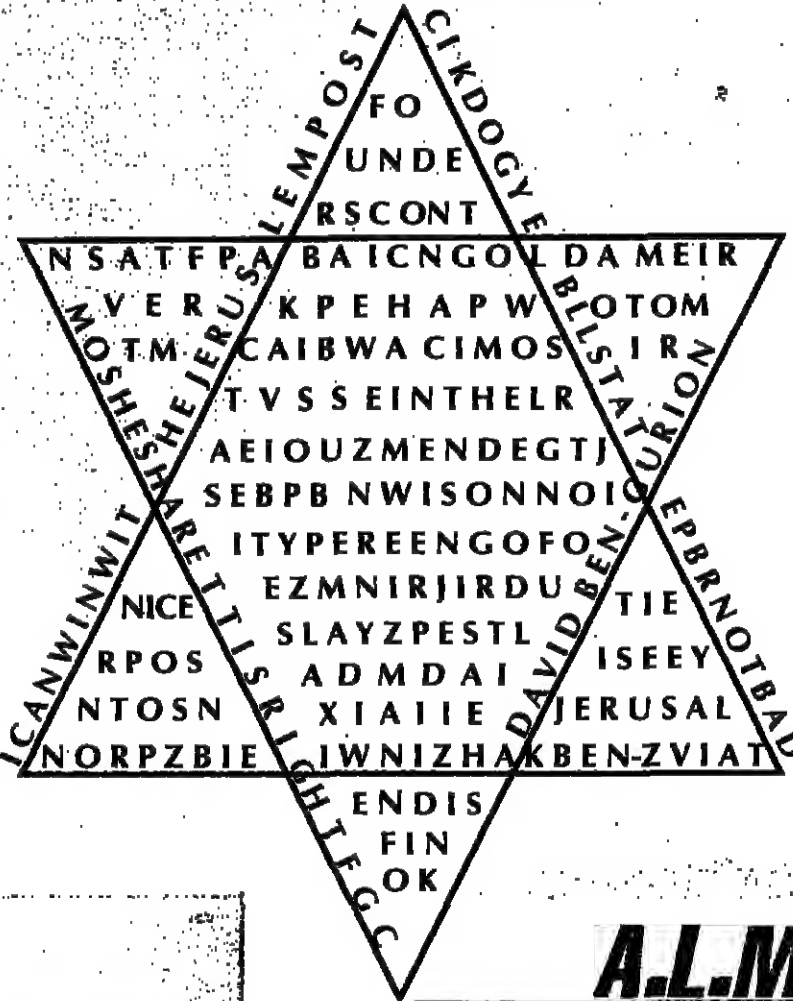
In yesterday's Lotto draw, the winning numbers were 4, 11, 14, 23, 25, and 40. The additional number was 42.

# The Jerusalem Post's

## FIND THE

## FOUNDERS

Israel's 50th anniversary is fast approaching. To commemorate this milestone, The Jerusalem Post presents the "Find the Founders" contest



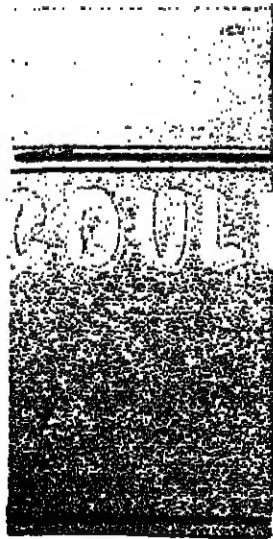
David Ben-Gurion, Chaim Weizmann, Moshe Sharett, Golda Meir and Izhak Ben-Zvi are hidden in this puzzle. Circle consecutive letters in any direction to find their first and last names, complete the form and send to:

"FIND THE FOUNDERS" CONTEST

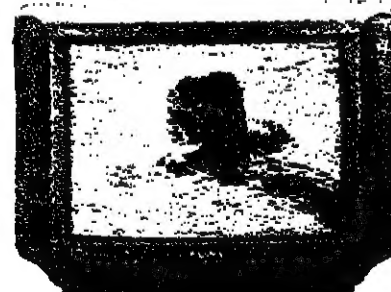
c/o The Jerusalem Post, P.O.B. 81, Jerusalem 91000



**Matching Frigidaire washer-dryer set**



**Apollo-Tadiran 200 refrigerator**



**Sony 21" color T.V.**

- This contest will appear again in the June 27th edition. You are welcome to enter as many times as you wish. All entries must be postmarked no later than June 30, 1997, and be filled out on the original newspaper form (no photocopies or faxes will be accepted).
- Only correctly circled puzzles accompanied by fully-completed forms will be entered into the grand prize draw which will be held on July 10, 1997.
- The first correct, fully-completed entry drawn will win the washer-dryer set, the second the refrigerator, and the third the T.V.
- Jerusalem Post staff, their families and distribution agents are not eligible. Failure to fill in all of the details on the form disqualifies the entry.

Please complete the form in full and send with the puzzle to "Find The Founders" contest, c/o The Jerusalem Post, POB 81, Jerusalem 91000

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
city neighborhood  
street number postal code  
Telephone No: \_\_\_\_\_  
area code

Do you have The Jerusalem Post delivered to your home Sunday to Friday? ☐ yes ☐ no

# US Reform rabbis endorse Zionism

By MARILYN HENRY

The rabbinical wing of the Reform movement was expected to pass a resolution last night celebrating Zionism and calling for political and financial support for Israel as well as encouraging aliya. The platform, in recognition of the centenary of the first World Zionist Congress, was the first dedicated exclusively to the relationship between Progressive Judaism and Zionism.

The Central Conference of American Rabbis, a group of nearly 600 Reform rabbis meeting in Miami this week, also was expected to consider nearly two dozen resolutions today, ranging from the peace process to free speech on the Internet.

The CCAR said in a draft resolution that it had reservations about some of Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's "tactical decisions," but expressed solidarity with the people of Israel in the quest for peace with security. However, the draft also called for a unity government "to articulate more clearly Israel's peace policies," and it urged the Palestinian Authority to adhere to the principle of reciprocity in the Hebron Accord.

Under a resolution called "the triumphalism of Torah law in Israel," the rabbis said they were alarmed at the social gulf separating Ashkenazi and Sephardi Jews and called for religious pluralism. Another draft resolution expressed the CCAR's opposition to the conversion legislation in Israel that would recognize only Orthodox conversions performed abroad.

The Miami Platform, called "Reform Judaism and Zionism: A Centenary Platform," listed six "obligations to Israel." The first four called for political and financial support for Israel, intensified use of Hebrew, educational programs and "religious practices" that reinforce the bond between Reform Judaism and Zionism, and study programs and visits to Israel.

The fifth item of the draft platform suggested aliya. "While affirming the authenticity and necessity of a creative and vibrant Diaspora Jewry, we encourage Reform Jews to make aliya to Israel in pursuance of the precept of *yishuv Eretz Yisrael* [settling the Land of Israel]," it said.

It was a far cry from the 1885 "Pittsburgh Platform," in which Reform Judaism declared it no longer expected Jews to return to a national homeland in Palestine. "We consider ourselves no longer a nation, but a religious community, and, therefore, expect neither a return to Palestine nor the restoration of any of the laws concerning the Jewish state," the 1885 platform said.

But the Miami Platform also cited one "obligation" of Israel to the Diaspora. The nation of Israel consists of a coalition of different, sometimes conflicting, religious interpretations and "the Jewish people will best be served when *Medinat Yisrael* is constituted as a pluralistic, democratic society," the platform said. "Therefore we seek a Jewish state in which no religious interpretation of Judaism takes legal precedence over another."

# IDF: Lebanon responsible for Jezzine bomb attacks

By DAVID RUDGE

Israel holds the Lebanese government responsible for the bomb attacks in the Jezzine enclave, north of the security zone, last week in which four people, including a South Lebanon Army officer, were killed and two others wounded, the IDF said yesterday.

The Grapes of Wrath monitoring group yesterday concluded its discussions into Israel's complaints over three separate roadside bomb attacks in the Christian township.

Israel complained about the indiscriminate attacks by Hizbullah around Jezzine, including the planting of roadside bombs in residential areas, without differentiating between residents and military personnel.

A statement issued by the IDF Spokesman after the monitoring group's meeting said that Israel held the Lebanese government

responsible for the attacks.

The statement said that the group, established to supervise the understandings that ended fighting last April, had accepted the fact, submitted by Israel, that the attacks were carried out in residential areas or against civilians.

The monitoring group called on those responsible to take precautions in cases where innocent civilians could be hurt.

A complaint from Lebanon over an artillery flare hitting a village near Sidon was also discussed. From the evidence submitted to the committee, however, it was not possible to determine from where the artillery flare was fired.

Reports from Lebanon said fighting continued in the south yesterday with a long-range mortar attack on a SLA position in the Jezzine region. There were no reports of any casualties in the incident.

